UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 21. April 16, 1921.

Unless the United States can readjust its railroad rates, it will be compelled to rewrite the entire agricultural geography of the United States, Secretary Hoover declared yesterday before the executive committee and delegates of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

He stated that present rates would soon move this country's granaries to foreign shores, for today it costs 30 cents per bushel to ship grain from Missouri to New York, while the same amount can be shipped by water to Argentina for 10 cents a bushel.

He stated that those European countries that have developed industry to the detriment of agriculture have imperiled their national defense and even their civilization. (Press of April 16.)

The Southern Tariff Association announced yesterday it had arranged to send a delegation April 20 to confer with President Harding and later present to the House Ways and Means Committee an outline of the South's tariff needs. Protection for cottonseed producers will be asked for the first time, also a protective duty on hides. (Press of April 16.)

Bradstreet's food-index number for this week, based on the wholesale prices per pound of 31 articles, is $2.97, compared with $3.02 last week and $5.13 for the week ending April 15, 1920. (Phila. Public Ledger, April 16.)

Telegrams setting forth abnormal conditions in the grain market under which wheat is sold 16 cents a bushel cheaper than in Argentina and urging a congressional investigation as to what effect high freight rates have had in producing this condition were laid before the Senate yesterday by Senator Hitchcock. (Press of April 16.)

Agricultural Engineering

"Standardization of Agricultural Engineering Instruction in the South," is the title of an article by Daniel Scoates in Agricultural Engineering for March, in which he states that there is need of standardization of instructional work in agricultural engineering in the various agricultural colleges of the South because it will bring about many desirable effects. He lists and briefly outlines the desirable results to be obtained by standardization, and in some detail reviews the ten courses given in agricultural engineering in the South.

Brewery Readjustments

"From Brewing Beer to Raising Mushrooms," is the title of an article by M. A. Henry, in Scientific American for April 16, in which the author describes the conversion of a New York brewery into a "mushroom plantation." He states that the process of making beer is largely one of growing a species of yeast cells in a liquor obtained from malt and hops. Yeast is a first cousin to the mushroom; thus the brewing plant with its refrigerating machinery and dimly lighted interior is admirably suited to the growing of mushrooms.

Cheese Marketing

"Marketing by Federations," is the title of an article by Math Michels, in Hoard's Dairyman for April 15, in which the author recounts the origin and development of the Wisconsin Cheese Producers' Federation, and presents results it has accomplished. He says: "I am not afraid to go on record as saying, regarding the future outlook of the Federation, that the present 14,000,000 pounds of cheese handled per year will be doubled in the next twelve months. In 1930 the Federation will handle 140,000,000 pounds of cheese, the product of 1,500 factories."

Citrus-Fruit Crop of Sicily

The citrus-fruit crop of Sicily is a heavy one, but the condition of the market is far from satisfactory, according to Commerce Reports for April 13, which states, further, that exporters, shippers of lemons especially, having lost heavily during last season are cautious in making new commitments. So far as the United States is concerned, they are inclined to demand confirmed credits at fair prices before shipment is made. Owing to the large lemon crop and the unfavorable condition of the market for fresh fruit, there will undoubtedly be an exceptionally large production of citrate of lime during 1921, a production estimated at 14,000 tons.

Cotton

1. More cotton was exported to Germany than to any other country during March, while the United Kingdom, the United States's best customer for raw cotton, took only 64,490 bales, according to Census report issued yesterday.

2. Reports from abroad of a British plan to secure European and Asiatic monopoly of raw cotton production through mandates under the League of Nations have come to the attention of government officials at Washington, according to N. Y. Daily News Record, Apr. 15.

3. "How to Make a Profit Growing Cotton," is the title of an article, by M. L. Hallenbeck, in Farm and Ranch for April 16, which is the first of a series of four, written for the purpose of centering the "best thought of the South" on the problem of putting the cotton industry on a profitable business basis by organizing a state and farmers' cooperative mill and selling the finished product.

Cotton in Spain

Spain expects soon to be independent of the United States for its raw cotton supply. Spain's first crop of cotton, amounting to 8,000 bales, was harvested last season. Soil in the Andulusian region has proved exceptionally well fitted for cotton growing, and, under the supervision of cotton experts from the south of the United States, Spanish farmers are expected to make large plantings next season. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 15.)

Dairy Products Marketing

The Milwaukee Butter, Cheese and Egg Exchange has been organized and is in active operation. It expects ultimately to handle the bulk of the $100,000,000 dairy industry output of Wisconsin. (Milwaukee report to Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 16.)

Foreign Trade

1. Canada's export trade in foodstuffs has expanded at an enormous rate in the past ten years, according to Commerce Reports for April 18 which presents figures showing exports of apples, flour, potatoes, mea and sundries.

2. A comprehensive review of economic conditions in Argentina is given in Commerce Reports for April 18. This states that the heavy stocks of wool and hides in the country and the low prices prevailing, together with the fact that the quantity of grain available for export during 1921 was only about 60 per cent of the amount exported during 1920, were the cause of much uneasiness. Every indication, however, points to a sound financial condition within the country, the report states.

French Crops

The French Minister of Agriculture publishes in the Journal Officiel of March 22 a comparative statement of the condition and acreage of certain French field crops on March 1, 1921 as compared with the corresponding date of 1920, which appears in Commerce Reports for April 13.

Irrigation

The California Bureau of Economics is preparing a plan of lands in California showing the area of irrigation. This will be filed with the Federal Power Commission at Washington. More than 27 per cent of the land of the state is in farms. California has a potential maximum of 4,000,000 horsepower of hydro-electric energy which can be developed commercially. Only 1,000,000 horsepower has been developed. The California Development Board estimates it will cost $1,000,000,000 to develop the 3,000,000 horsepower which is waiting to be used. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 16.)

Labor

Farm labor supply in Missouri is 20 per cent in excess of 1920, but present farm demand is but 87 per cent of normal or 13 points below that of 1920, according to the Missouri state board of agriculture. Kansas state agricultural board reports the labor supply as showing a great improvement over a year ago. The present supply is 94 per cent and the demand 88 per cent of normal. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 15.)

Legislation

1. The bill to reorganize the business of the government of Ohio, as passed by the State Senate last week, is reviewed in The Ohio Farmer for April 16. It states that the Department of Agriculture, which, practically ever since its start in 1846, has been under the control of the state board of agriculture, will be under the control of a director of agriculture to be appointed by the governor. There will be a board of agriculture of an advisory nature, however, to consist of 10 members, as now, but without the authority of the old board. The experiment station, which has been under a separate board of control, will be transferred to a board of trustees of the Ohio State University and the directors of agriculture, vested with all the powers and authority of the former board.

Legislation 2. Participants in the conference of wood-using interests which discussed the situation in regard to forests at Harrisburg, Penna., this week, have adopted resolutions to be sent to the legislature calling upon the General Assembly to make an appropriation of $1,000,000 for fighting forest fires. (Phila. Public Ledger, April 16.)

Marketing

A brief outline of the cooperative plan of the United States Grain Growers, Inc., the national cooperative grain marketing corporation organized at Chicago last week, is given in Standard Daily Trade Service for April 15.

It comments as follows: "While it is believed that the farmers generally will accept the new plan, it is felt that some difficulty will be experienced in securing the cooperation of the growers of the Northwest who were strong in their advocacy of the compulsory pooling idea, and who originally approved the movement on consideration that this plan would be adopted.

"The approval of the scheme for marketing grain as given by the Secretary of Agriculture has its sequel in the message of President Harding to Congress, in which he urged immediate aid for farmers in the form of an emergency tariff."

Nuts

The president of the Amazonas Chamber of Commerce has recently communicated to the Brazilian Minister of Agriculture the discouraging situation in his state because of the drop in the price of Brazil nuts, which were only recently quoted at 92 milreis per hectoliter (2.75 bushels), and which are now down to less than one-third of that price, the more recent quotation being 30 milreis. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 13)

Prices

"Increased production is prescribed every time there is an advance in price to city consumers. It is taken for granted that the greater the supply of any one commodity the cheaper it will be. At one time in the history of this country such a conclusion might have stood the test. It no longer applies except to the producer. Cabbage growers are offered $6 a ton and less in the Rio Grande Valley and consumers in Dallas pay approximately $100 for the same article. Other illustrations of the same nature could be cited."
(From editorial in Farm and Ranch, Apr. 16.)

Prune Crop of Jugoslavia

The average prune crop of Jugoslavia amounts to about 63,000 metric tons. About 40 per cent of the harvest is dried, 40 per cent manufactured into brandy, and the remainder made into jam. The prunes are smaller in size than the California variety. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 13.)

Rice

From reliable reports, all rice crops everywhere are excellent, and a total record breaking crop has been forecast and is expected this year. The immense crops, general financial stress throughout the world, the urgent need of rice producers for other commodities, the deflation of prices in foodstuffs, and many other factors have caused a marked decrease in the price of rice in the international and domestic trade.

The rice producers and millers in the United States, realizing that the price of rice is, like all other commodities, extremely high, have reconciled themselves to accept heavy losses this year, and to market as great a portion of the crop as possible in the United States.
(Cont'd on page 5)

Rice (Cont'd) To further this program the millers and producers are financing an advertising campaign by which it is hoped to popularize the use of rice in this country and to build up a home market sufficient to consume our total production. (The Rice Journal, April.)

Tariff Higher import duties on olives and olive oils than are provided in the emergency tariff bill now before the House were declared by Senator Hiram Johnson yesterday to be essential if the olive industry is to be saved from serious impairment or utter ruin. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 16.)

Texas Livestock Industry Texas range owners require funds to carry their live stock until market conditions are more favorable, according to Representative Hudspeth of Texas, who is appealing to the Federal Reserve Board for federal loans for the rangers. (Wall St. Jour. Apr. 15.)

Trade As a result of a survey of conditions in Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey, reported at a meeting of the Tri-State Packers' Association at Wilmington, Del., April 15, 90 per cent of the canneries in the business sections are not expected to operate this year because of the great stock of tomatoes, corn and peas now in warehouses. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 16.)

Transportation Two large consignments of lemons for dealers in New York and Philadelphia are headed from San Pedro, Calif., on the S. S. Cramp. This is the second cargo of lemons sent over the water route from the Pacific coast. The cost of shipping by steamship is $1 a box, as compared with $1.75 by rail. The cheaper shipping facilities probably will be the salvation of the lemon industry. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 14.)

Wool 1. The London wool auction sales closed yesterday with offerings of 5,959 bales. Demand was good and merinos and best crossbreds finished firm and above the lowest. During the series merinos declined 10 to 15 per cent, crossbreds 5 to 15 and Cape of Good Hope and Natal 15. The home trade purchased 19,000 bales and the Continent 20,000, while 13,000 were held over. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 16.)

Conventions The Southern Tariff Association will be in session at Washington April 18 to 20. (Press of Apr. 16.)

Select List of New Books Added to Library

Dana, J.C. A library primer. 1920.
Financial review. Finance, crops, railroads, trade, commerce. 1920. N.Y., W. B. Dana Co.
Hess, Ernst. Die sterilität des Rindes. 1920.
MacDougall, F.H. Thermodynamics and chemistry. 1921.
Meyer, Th. Arzneipflanzenkultur und Kräuterhandel. Ed. 3. 1919.
Standley, F.C. Flora of glacier national park, Montana. 1921. (Contributions from the U.S. National herbarium. v.22, pt.5.)
Williams, C.B., and Hill, D.H. Corn book for young folk. 1921.

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Vol. 1, no. 22. April 18, 1921.

Legislation to eliminate unnecessary brokerage transactions, to facilitate a wide distribution of information regarding market conditions, and to strengthen the powers of the Federal government in its price investigations, is recommended by the Federal Trade Commission in a report on the general industrial situation, drawn up at the request of President Harding and made public last night.

Declaring that the cost of commodities to the consumer had not, broadly speaking, been reduced in proper proportion to the decline in agricultural and other raw materials, the Commission sets forth its belief, that "in general it would appear that the movement toward the reduction of prices to the consumer is retarded chiefly at the retailing stage, and that relief at this point would be reflected back in increased production cost and relieve to some extent at least the check upon the manufacturer, and by increasing the demand for raw materials would react upon the producer." (Associated Press, Apr. 18.)

Senators from the agricultural states will take their fight for more liberal credits and a lower rediscount rate at the Federal Reserve banks to the President, it was announced April 16 by Senator Smith, of South Carolina. These senators contend that the increase in the gold reserve points to the availability of more credit facilities, Senator Smith said. (Press of Apr.17.)

A memorial to Congress setting forth the tariff requirements of the South and strongly recommending specific import duties on the products of 57 southern industries was decided upon at a meeting of members of the Southern Tariff Association, at Washington, April 16, attended by Thomas Walker Page, Chairman of the U. S. Tariff Commission. (Press of Apr. 17.)

At no period in the history of the country has tariff-making been attended with greater difficulties than those which now confront it, is the statement of Chairman Page of the U. S. Tariff Commission. Public opinion is averse to duties fixed unnecessarily high. While the high tariff is supposed to stimulate industry and in turn make possible higher wages, such a result is necessarily delayed, while its effect on prices is immediate. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 17.)

Agricultural College Courses

Wallace's Farmer for April 15 bases an extensive editorial on the subject of the weakness of the agricultural college in the matter of instruction in farm economics and marketing as against the purely productive side of agriculture, and states that while there should be no let-down in the work of the colleges along production lines, they must teach how to sell as well as how to produce.

British Butter Situation

Local produce men are watching the British butter situation with interest says the Journal of Commerce for April 16. At the close of the food control last month there were fully 57,000 pounds of butter which had been imported by the British government either in the country or due to arrive. The sale of this butter will be controlled by the Board of Trade through a disposals board. British traders say the distribution of such large stocks constitutes a serious problem.

Cotton

In a review of the cotton industry given by Lavaille McCampbell, vice president of the Consolidated Textile Corporation, he said: "I believe that the cotton manufacturing industry is passing, or will pass, through the same phase of development as oil and steel and tobacco, and that smaller units will be gathered together into larger units and eventually these larger units into still larger entities." (Magazine of Wall Street, Apr. 16.)

Dairy Products Marketing

Dairy farmers of the United States are invited to Chicago May 3 by the American Farm Bureau Federation to discuss the marketing of milk in large cities and small towns and the cooperative condensaries as a market for milk and whey. (Ills. Agricultural Association News Letter, No. 48, Apr. 14.)

Danish Bacon Industry

"Danish Breeds of Pigs and the Danish Bacon Industry," is the title of a comprehensive article describing how a first-class marketable product is produced. This states that the year 1914 broke all previous records for the number of pigs killed, -- 2,836,000 head. During the war the production of Danish bacon was greatly reduced. Realizing that once the war was over there would again be a foreign market for Danish bacon owing to its superior quality, Danish farmers made every sacrifice to retain the splendid breeding-pigs which had been developed during the years immediately preceding the war. The result is that there is again a great increase in the stock of pigs in Denmark, and that in the summer of 1920 they numbered over 1,000,000 head. (Danish Foreign Office Journal, March.)

Eggs

In a review of the United States trade in Chinese dried and frozen eggs in 1920, Commerce Reports for April 14 states that nearly 4 per cent of this country's imports from China in 1920 were dried and frozen eggs, used largely in large bakeries. The report presents a table showing United States imports of dried and frozen eggs from all countries for the calendar year 1920; also a table of the imports of dried and frozen eggs from all countries, by months, during 1920.

Evaporating Process

Prof. Leon Guignard has recently called the attention of the Academy of Sciences of France to a new process of evaporation and desiccation for drying either animal or vegetable substances, which he considers will render great service to science as well as industry. (Bulletin des Halles, March 28.)

Food Research

1. Completion of the directorate of the Food Research Institute, formed under an agreement between the Carnegie Corporation and the Leland Stanford, Jr., University, where it will operate, will be headed by Dr. C. L. Alsberg. Other members comprise Dr. Alonzo E. Taylor, and Prof. Joseph S. Davies, of Harvard University. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 18.)

2. How to best utilize the foods that furnish the 100,000,000,000,000 calories required annually to feed the people of the United States, and the 500,000,000,000,000 calories needed each year for this country's live stock, as well as how to provide the proper quality of "vitamines," is the object of extensive researches that have been planned by the committee on food and nutrition of the division of biology and agriculture of the National Research Council. These researches will extend over 5 years. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 18.)

Foreign Trade

1. At a meeting in Copenhagen between leading Danish business men and representatives of Czechoslovakia it was decided to establish a Danish--Czechoslovakian Chamber of Commerce in Copenhagen. The Danish agricultural organizations had already sent special representatives to Czechoslovakia to investigate the prevailing conditions, which, it was believed, offered good possibilities for trade. (Danish Foreign Office Journal, March.)

2. Foreign trade interests, especially British and French, are trying to establish themselves in Czechoslovakia. Two British concerns, with a capital of a million pounds, have been formed for the purpose of supplying the country with cotton which will be paid for by the re-export of yarns and manufactured articles.

French export concerns are negotiating a similar scheme. It is proposed to furnish Czecho-Slovak importers and manufacturers with raw materials worth 50,000,000 francs for 18 months against repayment in manufactured products. (Standard Daily Trade Service, Apr. 16.)

Fruit Marketing

The proceedings of the fruit marketing conference which met at Chicago on April 5 to formulate plans for the working out of the major fruit marketing problems are given in Wallace's Farmer for April 15.

Fur Sales

The sale of the New York Fur Auction Sales Corporation in New York was concluded April 16; total receipts were $2,610,000. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 17.)

German Livestock

An enumeration of livestock in Germany discloses the fact that there are 5,634,366 families possessing cattle, as compared with 5,845,650 on June 1, 1920 and 6,386,203 on Sept. 1, 1919, according to representative of U. S. Department of Commerce at Berlin. The total number of various domestic animals in Germany now is: Cattle, 16,904,376; cows, 8,790,052; milk cows, 7,993,625; swine, 14,269,497; sheep, 6,629,813; goats, 4,874,976. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 16.)

Grain Marketing

"Grain Marketing Plan Adopted," is the title of a comprehensive review of the organization, development and activity thus far of the United States Grain Growers, Inc., with a detailed outline of its plan of marketing wheat, in Wallace's Farmer for April 15.

Horses

"How the Horse Markets Behave," is the title of an article in The Ohio Farmer for April 16, which reviews grades and classes, suggests the seasons when they have best sale, and presents a chart showing the seasonal trend in the price of farm horses.

Italian Institute for Agricultural Machinery Tests

The Italian Minister of Agriculture, who has given special attention to the use of machinery in tilling the soil, favors the development of an experimental institution of agriculture where tests can be made on farm implements and the comparative advantages for different purposes of various types of machinery can be taught those who have to make use of them. Among other activities the proposed institute would examine inventions and advise on their merits. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 14.)

Nitrate Industry in Chile.

The nitrate industry of Chile has passed the most serious stage of its depression, but marked improvement can scarcely be looked for until after July of this year, according to the manager of the international trade department of the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, who has just returned from a business trip through South America. The world is oversold on nitrate, he says, and Europe, which consumes the bulk of Chile's production, cannot digest any more. (Press of Apr. 18.)

North Dakota Bonds

An attempt to market a $8,000,000 bond issue through a newspaper campaign will be started by the state of North Dakota today, according to the press of April 18. The decision was reached at Chicago last week between Chicago bankers and North Dakota state officers.

Oleomargarine Industry in Canada

Plans for curbing the oleomargarine industry in Canada received serious consideration at the recent annual meeting of the National Dairy Council in Toronto. The council advocated laws which would provide for a standard color of oleo other than the color of butter, also that no dairy products could be used in the manufacture of oleo to be sold in Canada, and that each package of oleo bear a printed statement of the ingredients used. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 16.)

Potash

In regard to the recent potash negotiations between the consumers and the German syndicate, the United States Potash Producers' Association's bulletin says: "There can be no doubt that this is as vicious a case of 'dumping' as could be imagined. Imported goods are not only to be sold below cost to kill American competition but are to be given away. So far the large fertilizer companies have not accepted the offer, but enough of the smaller concerns and brokers, particularly in the South, have accepted to warrant the State Department in announcing the deal will be put through."
(Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 16.)

Prices

Several manufacturers of harvesting machinery and implements will meet the International Harvester Company's prices, announcing reductions, according to the Wall Street Journal for April 16.

Pulp-wood in Quebec

The pulp-wood business in Quebec, like the lumber trade, is practically at a standstill; Quebec farmers, who for some years past have cut pulp wood from their farm woodlands, have stopped cutting. The tendency is to wait for a settlement of conditions, and it was stated that no more pulp wood would be cut until the prices are increased. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 14.)

Seed Congress

In view of the recognized importance of formulating international regulations for seed tests, an international seed congress is to be held in Copenhagen in June, 1921, at the suggestion of the British Ministry of Agriculture, supported by leaders of seed control institution in other countries. (Danish Foreign Office Journal, March.)

Sugar

Rulings concerning the regulation of the sugar market at the Paris Stock Exchange were published in the Journal Officiel of March 26 and in the Bulletin des Halles, Bourses et Marchés of Paris for March 26 and 28.

Tariff

1. The Tariff Commission has submitted to the Ways and Means Committee of the House a report entitled "Information Concerning American Valuation as the Basis for Assessing Duties Ad Valorem." It includes a review of legislation and attempted legislation upon dutiable value in the United States between 1789 and 1921, a summary of laws of various foreign countries relative to dutiable values, and a statement of the proportion of import trade affected by ad valorem, specific, and compound rates, the averages of each and relative revenues. The Commission points out deficiencies in the present system and difficulties in the operation of the proposed change.

2. "So long as Argentina and Canada have meat and corn and wheat which must compete with ours in the European markets, their shipments to us, or ours to them, can be essentially only questions of routing. *** It is only commodities of import, not of export, that are protected by tariff impositions. The only possible protection for our exporting industries would be achieved through the exclusion of our competitors from our export markets — a matter beyond our jurisdiction." (Standard Daily Trade Service, April 16.)

Department of Agriculture

1. "Secretary of Agriculture Wallace has established strong spokesmanship for agricultural interests in the past few weeks, and attention is being given to the statements he is issuing. *** With this spokesmanship for agriculture, and the strong position taken by Chairman Fordney of the Ways and Means Committee, chances for an emergency tariff bill are improving." (Utah Farmer, Apr. 9.)

2. "The Bureau of Markets and the Grain Dealers," is the title of an editorial in Wallace's Farmer for April 15 which in an analysis of the recent attack of the Grain Dealers' National Association on the Bureau of Markets indorses the methods of the Bureau, saying, in part: "The real objection of the grain men appears to be that the Bureau of Markets has been playing an increasingly important part in supplying data of this sort to new and powerful farmers' associations. Conditions affecting the grain trade both in this country and abroad are no longer a matter entirely for the private information of the dealers who have so long controlled the business."

Select List of Books Added to Library

American medical directory, 1921.
Garrigues, Albert. Les plantes en médecine; le seigle & l'ergot. 1921.
Lindet, Léon. Évolution des industries qui transforment les produits agricoles. 1920.
London. Empire timber exhibition. Catalogue of exhibits.

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Vol. 1, no. 23. April 19, 1921.

Farming interests continued their demand at Washington yesterday for a reduction in railroad freight rates, which, they said, would help relieve the distress of the farmers. Secretary Wallace declared in a statement that a "substantial reduction" in freight rates would be helpful now. Carl Vrooman, asserted before the American Farm Bureau Federation that rates which will enable traffic to move is "the only formula that can save farmers from ruin, the railroads from bankruptcy and the country from panic." (N.Y.Times,Apr.19.)

The railroads are preparing to resist to the extent of their power and ability the movement looking to a reduction in traffic rates without compensatory reductions in other directions. The agitation for rate reduction is growing in a constantly increasing volume, and will shortly be heard in Congress. The great force of the agricultural industry is being mustered behind it. (Wash. Post, Apr. 19.)

A decline of only 1 per cent in the retail cost of food to the average family in March as compared to February is noted by Labor Department statisticians on prices reported on 43 food articles in 51 cities.

The evidence that retail costs have not kept pace with the decrease in wholesale and producers' prices is demonstrated in the figures for the year, March 15, 1920 to March 15, 1921. During that period retail prices show a decline of only 22 per cent, while wholesale prices have declined from 36 to 40 per cent and producers' prices in many instances from 75 to 100 per cent. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 19.)

Officials of farm loan associations throughout the country are to hold a meeting at Washington tomorrow for the purpose of organizing a national association. It will be known as the National Union of Farm Loan Associations and is being formed through the Federal Farm Loan System with representatives of more than 20,000 borrowers. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 19.)

A resolution adopted yesterday at Chicago by the directors of the United States Grain Growers, Inc., directs the organization department to have its agents soliciting memberships urge each grower to elect to pool his exportable surplus grain.

Election of C.H. Gustafson, of Lincoln, Neb., as president, was announced yesterday. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 19.)

Cotton

1. Though the volume of business passing in the cotton futures markets in this country and England has remained relatively small during the past week, and the range of the price movements has been only moderately extensive, the tendency of prices has been upward rather than downward, the net change on the American Cotton Exchange April 15 being an advance of not far from 1/2 cent per pound. In view of the extremely serious character of most of the day to day reports from Great Britain this behavior of the cotton markets has impressed a large number of persons as nothing less than remarkable and as indicative of the existence of a persistent undercurrent of demand for cotton. (The Economic World, Apr. 16.)

2. China's cotton spindles increased to 2,225,000 in 1921, and the 1920 crop was but 50 per cent of normal production of 6,000,000, according to Wall St. Journal, Apr. 18.

Farm Lands to Canadian Soldiers

More than $82,043,000 has been approved by the Soldiers' Settlement Board of Canada to settle former Canadian soldiers on farms throughout the Dominion. The total number of former soldiers who have applied for qualification is 58,278, and the total number accepted 42,285. The number of loans which have been granted to veterans is 20,231, and $44,091,986 has been approved for land purchase. (The Economic World, Apr. 16.)

Fruit and Nuts in California

Bank clearings of Sacramento, Calif., have increased 358 per cent in the last ten years. This is the reflection of the remarkable development of the ten counties comprising the Sacramento Valley. In these ten counties there were 12,713,598 fruit and nut trees last year. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 19.)

Fruit Marketing

According to an announcement made at the Seattle office of the Oregon-Washington Canning and Preserving Co., the Puyallup and Sumner Fruit Growers Canning Co. plants at Puyallup and Sumner, Wash., and at Albany, Ore., have been selected to be the first units of the new $10,000,000 canning merger. This group is appraised at $1,030,000 in value. (N.Y. Commercial, Apr. 18.)

Legislation

An act just signed by the Governor establishing a standard for butter in Pennsylvania in accord with that of the United States Government. The new law fixes 16 per cent as the water limit, and also forbids addition of starchy or foreign fat substances which would be injurious. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 18.)

Live Stock

1. All cattle shown at the Iowa state fair this year must be from herds accredited as free from tuberculosis, according to a recent ruling by the Iowa Animal Health Commission. (Jersey Bulletin and Dairy World, March 30.)

2. The government of Brazil will aid importers of live stock in importing blooded animals by refunding the charges for freight from the countries of origin to Brazil, by the free entry of the animals, and by their free importation into the Interior, according to Consul Halberto at Pernambuco, Brazil. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 18.)

Live Stock

3. Prospects are bright in the Southwest for a generous output of grass beef this year. Graziers who own pastures and who leave their grass to stockmen are facing conflicting influences, but present indications are that the financial situation will bring increased production of grass-fat cattle in coming months. The bankers are using their influence to bring cattle from breeding grounds in Texas, New Mexico and Arizona to the great summer pastures of Kansas and Oklahoma for early maturity. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 19.)

4. A campaign for more hog raising in Texas has been launched by the Texas Chamber of Commerce and the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College Extension Service. A. L. Ward, swine specialist of the extension service, says that Texas farmers can save $24,000,000 annually by growing their own pork products from the waste of the kitchen and feed lots. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 19.)

Prices

1. "The Federal Trade Commission's statement puts into words what millions of Americans have been feeling for months. We all know that the war-made, artificially inflated prices are being maintained long after the shadows of excuse have vanished. The figure of the retailer grimly holding on to war-time profits is with us. His wordy protestations still echo. But we have seen the cuts in wholesale quotations, in manufacturers' figures, and know how long it takes for those figures to reach the buyer's level. *** Certain of these groups have taken a loss, the farmer for one. *** Labor and the middleman have yet to be convinced." (From editorial in Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 19.)

2. According to a statement prepared by the industrial bureau of the Merchants' Association of New York reports from 9 countries, in addition to the United States, indicate that wholesale prices throughout the world have declined from 8 to 42 per cent from high points reached last year and that present wholesale prices in the United States more nearly approximate prewar levels than in any of the other countries. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 18.)

Railroad Earnings

As far as the movements of the leading staples are concerned, the western grain receipts of the railroads do not appear to have varied greatly from those of a year ago, though there were some sharp changes as between the different cereals and also as between the different primary markets, but southern roads suffered a sharp reduction in their cotton traffic. (From review of railroad earnings in February, in Commercial and Financial Chronicle, Apr. 16.)

Raisin Marketing

The number of new contracts of the California Associated Raisin Company exceeds the number of old contracts by 1,167, according to The Pacific Rural Press for April 9. It states that the total number of contracts signed to April 2 are 12,131, covering 12,914 ranches.

Rice

The total amount of rice available for exportation from Saigon, French, Indo-China, is placed at 4,188,740 pounds, according to the American consul at that port. Of this amount 3,306,900 pounds are from the 1920-21 crop, while 809,840 pounds were carried over from the 1919-20 crop. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 19.)

Tariff

1. S. R. Bertron, who was economic financial adviser to the Root mission to Russia, warned yesterday against unwise legislation which would prevent imports from Europe, and pointed out that in such a case Europe could buy nothing from us. Mr. Bertron, who has just returned from abroad, considers that our only hope in utilizing the expanded industrial facilities of the United States lies in the extension of long-term credits and the acceptance of imports in payment. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 19.)

2. "A vast majority of our people in California are committed to the high tariff policy, and we think wisely so. Comparison between the United States and almost any other country in a matter of this sort practically entirely fails, in view of the size and sufficiency of this country in all lines, and there is no sufficient reason why agricultural products should be sacrificed in the protection theory, to the building up of manufactures, as was thought necessary in our earlier history." (Calif. Fruit News, Apr. 9.)

3. The Mexican duty on raw and refined sugar has been abolished, effective immediately. The duty on refined has been 10 cents U.S. currency per gross kilo. of 2.2 pounds and on raw and brown sugar 7 1/2 cents per gross kilo. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 15.)

4. The Mexican authorities have announced that the increased import duties on cotton textiles became effective April 15, instead of April 30. The increases are at the rate of 10 per cent. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 16.)

Trade

Tomato packing costs this season will be considerably higher than the present selling prices of the finished product, according to figures compiled by William Silver and Co., Aberdeen, Md. (N. Y. Commercial, Apr. 18.)

Trade Relations

At the annual meeting of the Canadian National Dairy Council, held recently in Toronto, a resolution was passed favoring some equitable arrangement between the United States and Canada for intertrading in dairy products. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 16.)

Wheat

Broomhall estimates total shipments of wheat to Europe from August 1, 1920, to March 31, 1920, at 336,000,000 bushels. This indicates a total for the full year of 504,000,000 bushels, or about 16,000,000 less than the revised estimate of January. To this should be added about 50,000,000 bushels for countries outside of Europe. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 18.)

Wool

1. The purchasing and manufacturing of blankets under the project as developed by the Iowa Fleece Wool Growers' Association has been extended until April 30, due to a large demand which has been coming from different people for the blankets and the satisfactory quality of those received. (Wallace's Farmer, Apr. 15.)

2. Western sheep men declare that the present railroad freight rates constitute a 20 per cent tax on the value of their products. Through the national and local wool growers' association commission rates under the present new arrangements will be reduced to $15 a carload of wool in place of the former rate of $25, charged exchange members at the market centers.
(Salt Lake City dispatch to Wall St. Jour., Apr. 18.)

Wool

3. The Union government of South Africa has announced that the British government is willing to purchase up to 100,000 bales of last season's wool clip, the schedule of prices for the various grades to be the schedule of the 1913-14 prices used for the 1917 scheme during the war according to a report of Trade Commissioner Stevenson from Johannesburg. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 15.)

Yeast

British manufacturers of yeast are attempting to persuade their government to give the manufacture of yeast the standing of a key industry. A subcommittee of the Standing Committee on Trusts, however, recently made an investigation of the trade and reported that unrestricted imports formed the only safeguard against a combination of distillers arbitrarily fixing the price of yeast to the consumer.

Select List of Books Added to Library

James, F. B. Some phases of the transportation problem, Wash., D.C. 1921.

"Consists of an address before the National Association of sand and gravel producers at Louisville, Ky., Jan. 12, 1921, to which have been added some authorities and an index. It treats the subject from both its juristic and economic aspect." Preface.

Massachusetts horticultural society. Catalogue of the Library, 2 pts. in 1 vol. 1918-20.

Papier-Kalender. Begründet von W. Pfaff. v. 35. 1920.

Roberts, J. R. Stock and stalks; a book for the dairy farmer. 1921.

Walker-Tisdale, C.W. Milk testing. London, 1920.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 24. April 20, 1921.

A bill authorizing agricultural cooperative marketing associations, unrestricted by general laws against restraint of trade, was introduced in the Senate yesterday by Senator Capper. The bill would enpower the Secretary of Agriculture to determine if any such association was "unduly enhancing" prices and move to curtail such use of its powers. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 20.)

"Economic disaster of unparalleled intensity" now is gripping southern states, according to a resolution adopted at Washington yesterday by the Southern Tariff Association, representing 57 industries. The resolution, which is a plea for equalization of tariff, will be forwarded to the House Ways and Means Committee. Members of the association also are to appear before the committee today to urge tariff duties on agriculture, manufacturing and mineral products, which, they say, will cause millions to be invested in the South. (Press of April 20.)

The International Acceptance Bank, Inc., opened for business yesterday in New York and began to carry out its aim, the financing of American foreign trade. The primary function of the bank - the granting of dollar acceptance credits - is not its only activity, as it has been organized to grant credits in foreign currencies, to deal in foreign exchange and to carry on foreign trade financing on a reasonable short-term basis. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 20.)

Butter in Great Britain

The supply of butter in the United Kingdom, domestic production and import taken together, has improved very much of late and the quantity going into consumption is estimated at approximately 75 per cent of the prewar figures. The average consumption of butter per head of the population of the United Kingdom is now 8 pounds per annum and is increasing, and that of margarine 17 pounds. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 19.)

Cotton

1. A serious amount of short-time working and even complete stoppage of the cotton spindles of the world, a fact generally known but not supported by statistics, is the situation disclosed by a report which the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners and the Manufacturers' Associations has just issued. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 18.)

Cotton

2. Representatives of six other cotton-producing states met with the executive committee of the Oklahoma Growers' Association at Oklahoma City, April 19, to draft a tentative sales plan to create uniformity of sales in all states selling by the cooperative method. The foundation was laid for a national over-head sales agency, with compulsory pools for members of the various state organizations themselves bound to the national plan. (Wash. Star, Apr. 19.)

3. Czechoslovakia has removed the ban against the importation of cotton, it was announced yesterday by the Department of Commerce. Cotton will be admitted free of duty hereafter. Import license will be granted automatically. Normal importation of cotton into Czechoslovakia for her textile industry is 600,000 bales a year. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 20.)

4. That India's cotton crop will be 39 per cent under last year's yield was the report based on estimate received yesterday by the Department of Commerce. The estimated yield is 3,556,000 bales. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 20.)

Farm Power Studies Needed

That the agricultural experiment stations have not investigated the farm power problem in a comprehensive manner is the statement of an article on farm power in Farm Implement News for April 14. It says: "We have had surveys and studies regarding the use and cost of keeping horses, and surveys on the use of the tractor. This work has its value, but it is only nibbling at the problem. *** We are interested in the cost of farm power, but not nearly so much as knowing how to use the power more efficiently and reduce the costs of operation." (Farm Implement News, Apr. 14.)

Foreign Trade

The financing of exports to Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and other central European countries is to be undertaken by nationals of those countries here in a more concrete form through the organization of banks under the Edge law. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 19.)

Foreign Trade Financing

The Foreign Trade Financing Corporation and its scope and purpose are outlined in a comprehensive article by John McHugh, chairman of the committee on organization of the corporation, in The Annalist for April 18. He denies that the new venture was designed to aid embarrassed bankers, stating that its dealings are directed toward future foreign trade and that the real burden is not on the banks but on exporters, manufacturers and agricultural producers.

Freight Rates

Arthur R. Mackley, attorney-examiner for Interstate Commerce Commission, has held in a tentative decision that coarse grain rates of 76 cents per 100 pounds for points in Group F and 64 cents for points in Group G in Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Iowa to points in Montana, Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Canada which were increased on June 25, 1918, by an order for 50 cents to the wheat basis, are unreasonable to the extent that this exceeded 61 cents which was the rate subsequently made applicable on wheat and coarse grain for Groups F and G. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 19.)

Freight Rates and Industrial Readjustment

How the increased freight rates that went into effect last year are bringing about an industrial readjustment in the matter of manufacturing nearer the sources of supply is illustrated in an article under title, "Higher Freight Rates Bringing About Industrial Adjustment," in The Annalist for April 18. This says in part: "The Idaho Wool Grower is Asking Himself why he should ship wool to New England or even to Chicago to be manufactured and sent back to him in the form of cloth or clothing. Why, in fact, should hides be sent from the Far West to Brockton, Mass., there to be made into shoes which are later shipped back to Wyoming? Why should lumber from the Northwest be sent to Jamestown, N.Y., to be made into furniture?"

Insuring Grain Elevators

While the adjustment of fire and explosion insurance on the big Armour Grain Company elevator at Chicago is not yet completed, the heavy loss involved again emphasizes the need of complete coverage on such properties. Grain elevators, flour mills, starch mills and all similar plants need ample fire and explosion insurance to protect owners against losses, is the statement made in an editorial in Commercial West for April 16, which advocates the carrying of ample insurance of both fire and explosive sorts for all such elevators, where the dust accumulating is always a hazard on such properties.

Italy Drops Coffee Control

The Ministry of Finance at Rome ~~xxxxxxxx~~ surrendered control over the importation of coffee yesterday and has consigned the stocks on hand to various importing concerns. The stocks of coffee in Italy are sufficient to last ten months, during which time its importation will be prohibited. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 20.)

Legislation

The Oregon state legislature, in recent session, passed a law which it is believed will bring about the state-wide use of purebred dairy sires within 15 years. Under the new law in Oregon none but purebred dairy sires can be sold. The dairy husbandry department of the Oregon Agricultural College is to act as a registration board. (Jersey Bulletin and Dairy World, March 30.)

Marketing

Executives of the wheat growers' organization in Nebraska voted April 13 in favor of continuing to offer all pooling contracts to the farmers. (Modern Miller, Apr. 16.)

Marketing Courses for Colleges

State universities and colleges of agriculture are making prompt response to the recent appeal made by President Howard of the American Farm Bureau Federation asking that courses be established to train young men in the various phases of cooperative marketing. President Howard has received replies from over 30 colleges. (Am. Farm Bureau Federation Weekly News Letter for April 14.)

Michigan Forest Fire Prevention

Michigan state farm bureau is pushing vigorously a campaign to conserve the forests of the state through adequate fire protection and a system of deferred taxation on standing timber which will make wise lumbering operations a more profitable undertaking than they are now. (The Michigan Farmer, Apr. 16.)

Montana Council of Agriculture

Organization of a Montana council of agriculture that can speak with authority on all matters affecting agriculture, live stock, dairying and allied farm interests has been proposed by Commissioner

(Cont'd on page 4)

Montana Council of Agriculture (Cont'd)

of Agriculture Davis in a call issued by him to eighteen or more farm or live stock associations in the state for a conference at Helena, April 27. (Montana Farmer, Apr. 15.)

Montana Freight Rates

Montana Farm Bureau Federation at a recent meeting passed a resolution that the state railway commission be asked to make an earnest effort to secure relief from the excessive rates on potato shipments, which are now confiscatory and which will be prohibitive of shipments to eastern markets. (Montana Farmer, Apr. 15.)

Onion Marketing in Michigan

Michigan state farm bureau is making a study of the onion industry in Michigan and the neighboring states with a view to discovering the problems confronting the onion growers and determining on means to solve them. As the result of a survey just completed it is advocating as one measure of relief that each cooperative organization should have a warehouse for the storing of farm produce and that there should be careful inspection and grading at point of shipment, also collective selling and marketing by experts who would be in touch with the entire distributing proposition. (Michigan Farmer, Apr. 16.)

Rice Crop of India

The total estimated yield of cleaned rice for the current crop for all India approximates 29,510,000 tons, and this amount may be further increased with the receipt of more reliable statistics from Bahir and Orissa, according to the final general memorandum of the Department of Statistics of India on the rice crop of 1920-21, published in Commerce Reports, for April 18. A table shows the yield by provinces and states.

Utah Seed Pool

Utah farmers sold their alfalfa seed pool recently, more than 1,250,000 pounds in one sale, the largest single consignment of seed ever sold by growers to a distributor in the United States. The cooperative marketing association of the Utah state farm bureau has now disposed of 2,000,000 pounds of alfalfa seed. Over 400 farmers had seed in the pool. (New England Homestead, Apr. 16.)

Utah's Wool

Utah's 1921 wool clip is now estimated at approximately 15,000,000 pounds. More than half of this will be placed at once in the cooperative wool pool which has been organized by the Utah Wool Growers' Association and Utah State Farm Bureau. (Wall St. Jour. Apr. 19.)

"Country Gentleman" Criticized

"The Nigger in the Woodpile. Boys Get the Money," is the title of an article in the Eastern Dealer in Implements & Vehicles for April 14, criticising an article entitled "Farm Bureau's Oversight," in the Country Gentleman for April 9. It charges that the motive of the Curtis Publishing Company is the desire to secure paid advertisements from the farmers and questions the statement that such advertising is necessary "to get their story across" as shown by the fact that the Fordney tariff bill, which it charges is a "sop pure and simple to the farmers," has been placed ahead of other legislation by the special session of Congress. It predicts "that instead of benefitting the farmer or the Republicanmajority, it will work the other way and for one thing will create the deplorable condition of having the next Congress elected composed of a majority in opposition to the

(Cont'd on page 5)

"Country Gentleman" Criticized (Cont'd)

president." It also says, "Under the wise guidance of men like Howard we refute the statement that the Farm Bureau Federation is losing ground, and the editorial ought to bring from them a quick rejoinder, just as it should bring for the future closer cooperation with the real farm papers of the United States."

Conventions

1. Four departments of the National Implement and Vehicle Associatio will hold their spring conventions at Chicago, April 21 and 22. John H. Riesner, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Forestry, University of Nanking, China, will speak on the farm implement market of China presenting first-hand information on the needs of the farmers in the Orient. (Implement and Tractor Trade Journal, Apr. 16.)

2. The board of directors of the Grain Dealers' National Association have voted to hold the 1921 convention of this organization at Chicago October, 10-12. (Modern Miller, Apr. 16.)

Department of Agriculture

1. For the first time in the history of the agricultural implement industry there is a prospect of obtaining a report of the production and value of products in this line that may be accepted as approximately correct. The Department of Agriculture has authorized one of its divisions to proceed with the collection of data, and the men who have charge of the work are making plans for a comprehensive inquiry. All that is needed in addition is the thorough cooperation of the manufacturers. *** Let everybody in the industry help to make the forthcoming report one of real value.
(From editorial in Farm Implement News, Apr. 14.)

2. In commenting upon the statistics compiled by the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce which show that more automobiles are owned by farmers than any other class of buyers, and those of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, which serves ten agricultural states in the Middle West, and has estimated that 65 per cent of the 3,000,000 automobiles in that particular district are owned by farmers, the Commercial West for April 16 says: "Yet Secretary of Agriculture Wallace tells us that 'farming has been carried on at a loss for the past seventy years.' "

3. "Congress Views the Farm Agent," is the title of a brief editorial in the Eastern Dealer in Implements and Vehicles for April 14, referring to views of Dr. A. C. True, Mr. J. A. Evans, and the Bureau of Markets, expressed in recent Congressional hearings, in regard to cooperative buying schemes. It says in part: "The need of the moment is to have merchants aroused to the need of paying attention to the work of the county agent, to help him in every possible way toward extending help to the farmer, and to fight him in any effort that would tend toward cooperative buying. The policy of keeping quiet for fear of antagonizing the farmer is wrong, and the more that the merchants bring out the fallacies of cooperative buying, the sooner will the bubble burst."

Select List of Books Added to Library

Algeria. Direction de l'agriculture, du commerce et de la colonisation
Vie économique de l'Algérie, 1919/20.

Amsterdam. Chamber of commerce and factories. Report on the condition of trade, shipping, and industry in 1919.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 25. April 21, 1921.

Congress was urged in a resolution adopted yesterday by the National Farmers Union, in convention at Washington, to appoint a joint commission to determine "what is wrong with agriculture" and to enact legislation to "correct the discovered and established evils." In quick succession resolutions were passed for the appointment of committees to report on the losses of the farmers and the amount of credit extended to them in comparison with other industries, and also on the "unfair practices and discrimination against cooperative concerns."

Members of the Farmers' Union were said by their national secretary to have $30,000,000 invested in cooperative organizations which did a turnover in business volume last year of more than $600,000,000. (Associated Press, Apr. 21.)

The Southern Tariff Association, composed of 57 of the leading industrial organizations of the South, yesterday presented their arguments in favor of immediate upward revision of the tariff both to President Harding and to the House Ways and Means Committee. A memorial presented to the latter said agriculture "lies prostrate," the manufacturing industry is "threatened with paralysis," and the mineral industry is "entirely inoperative." The immediate enactment of "such tariff schedules as will equalize the cost of production in this country with that of foreign countries," was asked. (Press of Apr. 21.)

Delegates from farm loan associations throughout the United States were warned in an address by Senator Fletcher of Florida, last night, to be on their guard against attempts to weaken the Federal Farm Loan act. Twenty-five amendments recently offered to the act, he said, ought to be sufficient evidence that it is still under fire. (Press of Apr. 21.)

A delegation of the American Farm Bureau Federation, received yesterday by President Harding, were assured that the appointment which is to be made on the Interstate Commerce Commission would be satisfactory to farming interests. A request was made of the President that farmers be represented on the Federal Reserve Board, Shipping Board and other boards and commissions by the appointment of one farmer member. (Press of April 21.)

Bank Credit for Farmers

"Credit for productive purposes is the crying need of the farmers today, and unless this credit is extended by our local banks undoubtedly a system of rural credits, such as are already established in some states, will be the inevitable result. *** The farmers who especially need consideration are the large number of substantial farmers who, as yet, have not fully come to understand the use of bank credit." (From article by F. Rasmussen, Penna. Secretary of Agriculture, prepared for Corn Exchange Bank of Phila., reprinted in The Eastern Dealer in Implements and Vehicles, Apr. 14.)

Cotton

The President of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers stated yesterday at the annual convention of the association that while there is an abundance available now the whole world is billions of pounds short since 1914, and to fill this shortage calls for increasing crops. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 21.)

Cotton Yarns Report

The Federal Trade Commission has submitted to the House of Representatives its report on the investigation into combed cotton yarns, made in response to the resolution of Congress of April 5. Inquiries of the Commission into the costs, prices and profits of the combed yarn industry show that the profits realized by manufacturers were lowest in 1914 and highest in 1917; prices, however, were lowest in 1915 and highest in 1919. The earnings on total investment employed by 8 companies were 6.6 percent in 1914; 12.1 percent in 1915; 25.6 percent in 1916; 37.8 per cent in 1917; 26.6 per cent in 1918, and 25.7 per cent in 1919. (N.Y. Daily News Record of April 20 contains a comprehensive review and summary of the report.)

Credit to Farmers

"Silos on Credit," is the title of an editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for April 22 which says in part: "It is refreshing to notice that some communities are meeting the need of credit to farmers in part at least, and the latest of these to come to our attention is the plan of the Farmers' Livestock Credit Company of Marinette County, Wis. This concern was primarily organized to supply farmers of that county with money for the purchase of good cows, the money to be repaid in equal monthly installments extending over a period of three years. This concern has more recently offered to loan money on like terms to farmers in its territory for the purchase of silos."

Farm Depopulation

That last year 40,000 men and boys left the farms of New York State, the net loss to the farm population being 16,000, or 2 percent, is the statement made in an editorial in the Wall Street Journal of April 20, under the title, "Making the Farm Unattractive." It says, further: "Compare the average purchasing power of an acre of crops of last year with that of 1914, when exchanged for necessaries. It will now buy about 62 percent as much coal, 58 percent as much sugar, 46 percent of muslin, 59 percent of lumber, 64 percent of lime and 72 percent of wire fencing. *** Here is a statement of facts made with no intention of dictating a remedy. The purpose is to call the attention of thinking men to a condition that vitally affects the immediate future, and even now retards the recovery of business."

Farmers' Profits.

"The farmer is contending that he sustained an actual loss of from five to six billion dollars during 1920 because that amount is that many billion dollars less than the value of the total farm products, including crops, for 1919. On that point I take issue with Mr. Farmer. I am not saying that he has not sustained certain losses; that I do not know, but I do know that he has not suffered any such loss as five or six billion dollars. That is a mythical or bookkeeping loss, and I wish to add that I never knew anyone grow rich on book profits, and I never knew anyone to fail due to book losses. *** The differentiation between actual profits and book profits is something that should be called to the attention of the farmer." (From reprint of an address on "An Analysis of Business Conditions," by W. H. Stackhouse, Pres., Nat'l Implement and Vehicle Assoc., in The Eastern Dealer in Implements and Vehicles, Apr. 14.)

Financing Cotton Farmers

The First National Bank of Greenwood, Miss., announces that after July 1 no loans will be made by the bank when the proceeds are to be used for the purchase of feed. It says:"The one crop man, whether it be corn, cotton, wheat or anything else, cannot be considered in the same credit class as the one that produces diversified crops. When a planter has to pay for all the feed as well as the other expenses of raising a crop, there has to be an exceedingly favorable cotton market, or he will not be able to pay out." (Commerce and Finance, Apr. 20.)

Flax Industry

That the world's future supply of Russian flax is seriously interesting the flax and linen trades in Great Britain at the present moment, is the statement made by the New York Daily News Record for April 20, which gives a review of the flax crops and stocks in various European countries.

Forestry

The campaign for an intelligent and practical national forestry policy that is being vigorously supported by William B. Greeley, National Forester, and by a special permanent committee from its headquarters here in New York, is winning new ground daily, as shown in resolutions supporting the plan being passed by business organizations in all sections of the country. (Lumberman's Review, April.)

German Grain Regulation

The German National Economic Council has published a project for the regulation of commerce in cereals which provides that grain imported will be devoted entirely to supplying the needs of the German population and that permission to reexport it will be refused. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 18.)

Grain Elevators

Sponsors of the new rural grain elevator law enacted by the 1921 Kansas legislature declare it will greatly encourage the building of elevators, distant from terminal grain storage points. It empowers local or rural elevators to issue warehouse receipts. This will permit farmers who wish to hold their grain for more favorable markets to store it and obtain warehouse receipts which may be used as collateral in obtaining loans, if necessary. (Modern Miller, Apr.16.)

Live Stock

That no cattle should be exhibited at the National Dairy Show beginning with the year 1924 unless they come from accredited herds, is expressed in a resolution of the American Jersey Cattle Club. The club also contemplates offering no premiums to fairs, cattle expositions, etc., unless the management of these institutions require all cattle exhibited to come from accredited herds. (Hoard's Dairyman, Apr. 22.)

Milk Marketing in Detroit

"Selling Milk Through a Commission," is the title of an article in Hoard's Dairyman for April 22, which describes in detail the service of the Detroit Milk Commission. It states that in general, the work of the commission has had an excellent effect. Besides establishing prices which have been acceptable to those who produce or retail milk, it has the confidence of the public.

Movies for Advertising Milk

Advertising milk from his accredited Holstein herd to users by way of slides run at a local moving picture house, is a plan which has been adopted by J. Frank Frain, one of the dairymen supplying milk to consumers in Winamac, Ind. (Hoard's Dairyman, Apr. 22.)

Municipal Milk Plants

A bill has been introduced in the Assembly of the Wisconsin Legislature which, if enacted into a law, grants a city the privilege of owning and operating its own milk plant. An editorial on this subject in Hoard's Dairyman for April 22 says in part: "We are opposed to such legislation. It is uneconomical and non-essential to securing a wholesome supply of milk for the people. We do not believe that cities should go into business and there is no more reason for the city going into the milk business than into the business of selling sugar, flour, etc."

Postal Service with Russia

Limited mail service with Russia has been resumed after four years' suspension, the Post Office Department announced yesterday, mail for European Russia, including the Ukraine, Republic of Georgia and Republic of Axerbaijan to go via London to Moscow for distribution.

Roads

Resolutions adopted April 20 at the annual convention of the United States Good Roads association in session at Greensboro, N.C., ~~xxxxxx xxxxxxxxxx~~ declaring that the federal and state cooperative road plan has resulted in the construction of thousands of miles of post roads and public highways which directly benefit many thousands of people, and urged Congress to appropriate $100,000,000 annually for five years to continue the work. Congress is also requested to provide that money collected from the allied nations shall constitute the road fund. (Wash. Post, Apr. 21.)

Sugar

1. Further reductions in the price of refined sugar were announced by the leading sugar refiners in New York April 19. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 20.)

2. If the Cuban sugar crop this year turns out 25,200,000 bags, it is easily figured that some 23,000,000 bags will be made by companies and concerns whose financial standing leaves little doubt that they will complete their crops regardless of financial conditions and sugar prices. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 20.)

Tariff

General Crowder sent a cable message to President Harding April 19 repeating the copy of a letter from President Steinhardt of the American Chamber of Commerce in Cuba, calling his attention to the dangers that will be caused to the American trade and the Cuban people by the Fordney Emergency Tariff bill. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 20.)

Tariff on Almonds

The California legislature went on record last week as favoring memorializing Congress to place a tariff on almonds. The resolution favoring the tariff stated that the almond acreage has been greatly reduced and the growing of almonds jeopardized by the importation of nuts from Europe. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 19.)

Trade Relations

A significant movement of trade in the Pacific during the late years, states the North China Commerce, is the gradual but steady development of Australasian foodstuffs to the Far Eastern countries. A Japanese-Australian company is establishing refrigerated storage in Japan, and a Japanese steamship company is building some large insulated steamers for the carriage of Australasian products. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 18.)

War Finance Corporation Advances

The War Finance Corporation has approved a preliminary application of a southern bank for an advance to assist in financing the exportation of 6,000 bales of low grade cotton to Germany. An application of a southern bank was also approved in connection with the exportation of a small shipment of tobacco to Denmark. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 20.)

Select List of Books Added to Library

British research association for the woollen and worsted industries. Report of the council, 1920. Leeds, 1921.

------- Sheep breeding committee. Annual report, 1920. Joint committee with other bodies on sheep breeding for the improvement of British wools. Leeds, 1921.

Canadian society of technical agriculturists. Addresses and discussions at the organizing convention, Ottawa, 1920.

Clemson agricultural college. Extension circular 26. Co-operative marketing of farm products, by D.W. Watkins. Mar. 1921.

Hawkes, W.H. Factory chemistry. 1921.

Montana. State college of agriculture. Extension service. Bulletin 46 Cooperative marketing, by J. F. Ware. Apr. 1921.

New Jersey. Dept. of agriculture. Bulletin 27. Official proceedings of the 6th annual agricultural convention together with some addresses; report of the marketing conference held by the Bureau of markets of the State dept. of agriculture, and addresses in the conference of the New Jersey federation of county boards of agriculture. Feb. 1921.

U. S. Federal trade commission. Report on the petroleum industry in Wyoming. 1921.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

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Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. I, no. 26. April 22, 1921.

Support of grain and cotton exchanges, but opposition to the speculative features connected with them represented the consensus of opinion of the speakers addressing the National Farmers' Union at their session last night.

In a report which will be officially presented to the delegates today, Secretary S. W. Brookhart, of Iowa, will present statistics indicating that the farmers have sustained a total loss of $7,000,000,000, due to "unnecessary profiteering of middlemen, arbitrary restriction of credits by Federal Reserve banks and unreasonable rise in railroad rates. Out of the dollar which labor pays for farm products, the farmer gets 38 cents," Mr. Brookhart said. "Out of the dollar which the farmer pays for labor products the laboring man gets 35 cents. A gap between reciprocal producer and consumer of 60 cents out of each dollar is caused by distribution costs." (Press of April 22.)

The National Farmers' Union and other agricultural interests yesterday laid before President Harding a memorial presenting their views on the economic situation as it affects their interests and asking him to "assume a vigorous and determined leadership in the work of bringing out of a chaotic condition an industry which must be restored to its pristine glory if anything like normal conditions are to prevail in the workshops and factories of our land."

Commenting upon the call made yesterday upon President Harding by some 400 farmers and 75 senators and representatives to lay before him their plea, the Washington Herald today says:

"There probably never has been a time when the farmer cause has commanded the recognition before the government that it is receiving today. And the power of the farmer movement and the official belief in the justice of its complaint probably could not be better illustrated than it was at the meeting with Harding. The whole event constituted an extraordinary tribute to the increasing force the farmer movement is wielding in government affairs."

Chairman Penrose of the Senate Finance Committee announced yesterday that the emergency tariff and anti-dumping bill would probably not be reported to the Senate before Monday. He predicted that it would be passed within a week. He reiterated that no changes would be permitted in the tariff provisions of the bill, but said that the anti-dumping and currency revaluation sections would have to undergo a clarifying process. (N. Y. Times, April 22.)

Agricultural Film Library

For the purpose of gathering together an agricultural film library and producing films for distribution to the county farm bureaus, the Illinois Agricultural Association announces it will organize a corporation. The corporation will be within the entire control of the I. A. A. executive committee. (N.Y. Daily News Record, April 21.)

Chilean Tariff

The new Chilean tariff does not affect American machinery for mining, agriculture and manufacturing artisans' tools, and many lines of mill supplies, which under the previous law paid little or no duty, according to Commerce Reports, Apr. 19.

Crop Insurance

"An Average Yield or Your Money Back," is the title of an article by E. V. Wilcox, in The Country Gentleman for April 23, in which he explains how farmers may insure their crops against almost all the dangers they encounter. Information is given regarding crop insurance in general and the various kinds of insurance obtainable by farmers.

Farm Bureau Growth

"From Five Men to a Million," is the title of an article in The Farm Journal for May, which tells how the "farm bureau acorn grew to an oak" in ten years. It says: "The idea of the county farm bureau has worked through the brains and arms of 'good and brave men,' of the farm and finds expression today in more than 2,000 county farm bureaus and a national Farm Bureau Federation with more than a million members."

Farm Economics

"Advice and the Farmer," is the title of an editorial in The Country Gentleman for April 23, which, after giving a brief résumé of the "weird economic forces" which have affected the operations of the farmer during the past year, says: "For those persons who insist on telling farmers what to do the best we can offer is a suggestion that they restrain themselves. Even the best guessers go wrong."

Federal Farm Loan Board Attacked

At a recent committee meeting in Salem, Oregon, of the State Grange, the Farmers' Union and the State Farm Bureau Federation, a movement was started to obtain the removal of the Federal Farm Loan Board at Washington, on the ground that the board is not friendly to the Farm Loan Act. The intention to make the movement nation-wide is admitted. (N. Y. Commercial, April 21.)

Federal Trade Report Criticised

"The Farmers' New Champion," is the title of an editorial in the Journal of Commerce for April 21, which says, in part: "That the Federal Trade Commission has not entirely escaped the virus producing an exaggerated view of the need for governmental aid for farming interests is evident from the report of that body recently laid before the President."

Grape Industry in Arkansas

That the grape belt in Arkansas bids fair to rival the famous Chautauqua grape growing belt of New York state is the prediction of John F. Welch, according to the New York Times of today.

Hog Prices

All grades of hogs sold at 8.85 per 100 pounds at Cleveland, Ohio, stock yards April 21, the lowest price in five years, dealers said. (Wash. Post, Apr. 22.)

Hides, Leather and Shoes

In an editorial entitled "Hide, Leather and Shoes," the Rural New Yorker for April 23 reviews the economic relation between hides and shoes from information it has collected directly. In this it says: "As we have often pointed out, one great trouble with the hide market is the fact that for the past few years immense quantities of hides have been imported from South America and other countries. *** That has piled up large quantities of hides in reserve, and this has broken the market."

Highway Commission

Creation of a federal highway commission to lay out and direct construction and maintenance of an interstate system of highways, will be the subject of a resolution to be offered at the ninth annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, to be held at Atlantic City, April 27-29, according to the program published in Journal of Commerce, April 21.

Inflated Pure-Breds

"Inflated Pure-Breds," is the title of an article by O. E. Bradfute, in The Country Gentleman for April 23, who writes from his own experience of the conditions brought about by "speculation, forced high prices, fake sales, crooked deals, and worship of fancy blood lines to the neglect of merit in individuals." After reviewing the situation in detail, he states that now is "a good time for a house-cleaning, not only in the herd but also in the mechanics and ethics of the business. *** For the small breeder who wants to increase his herd by the addition of high class stuff there never was a better time in which to do it."

Kansas Crops

The Kansas Secretary of Agriculture estimates the value of the crops of that state in 1920 at $699,170,341, and the value of the livestock at $283,259,000. The year stands first in total volume of production and second in money value. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 21.)

Labor

"Not only is labor more plentiful for the farms in general, but the attitude of helpers has shown a decided turn for the better," according to an editorial entitled "Labor in Greater Supply," in the American Agriculturist for April 23.

Legislation

New Jersey has a State Federation of County Boards of Agriculture which, among other things, will look after legislative matters. During the past season this federation conducted a referendum on various laws which the legislature was to consider. This was conducted in 12 agricultural counties. On daylight saving the vote was 4,161 against and 172 in favor. The result on the vote for immigration was 283 for free immigration, 828 for prohibitive measures, and 3,064 for restricted immigration. (Rural New Yorker, Apr. 23.)

Lime Citrate Surplus

Owing to the large lemon crop and the unfavorable condition of the market for fresh fruit in Sicily, there will undoubtedly be an exceptionally large production of citrate of lime during 1921, estimated by one of the leading experts in this line of industry at 14,000 tons. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 21.)

Marketing Crops in Maryland

"Buyers Must Bid for Farm Crops," is the title of an article by Hugh J. Hughes in The Farm Journal for May, which states that farmers in Wyconico County, Md., believe they have found the answer to the old question: "When I've raised my crop, how shall I get a fair price for it?" and that Salisbury's produce auction block should be copied everywhere.

Marketing Montana Potatoes

"Flathead Aristocrats: Farmers and Business Men Join Hands in Marketing Montana's Fine Potatoes," is the title of an article by G. S. Rubinow in The Country Gentleman for April 23, in which a full account is given of the origin, development, marketing and storage operations of the Northwest Potato Exchange at Kalispell, Flathead County, Montana.

Ohio Milk Pool

The executive committee of the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association at a meeting April 12 voted to pool on May 1 the milk of all those members who had signed the cooperative contracts. No other decision that has ever been made in the dairy industry is of such far-reaching importance as this decision to pool, and the news will be more than welcome to thousands of farmers who have been without a regular market for their milk since October 1.
(Ohio Stockman and Farmer, Apr. 23.)

Onion Production in Spain

A comprehensive review of onion production in Spain is given in Commerce Reports for April 19. Valencia and Canary Islands are main production centers.

Peanut Crop of India

India's groundnut crop of 1920-21 season for the three provinces which comprise about 99 per cent of the entire groundnut area of British India is estimated at 931,000 tons by the Department of Statistics, India. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 19.)

Roadbuilding in Virginia

Considerably more than $5,000,000 worth of road building will be finished or far advanced toward completion this year in Virginia. Plans for 345 miles of road work, excluding maintenance, are in the present program, the greater part of which has already been let. Some of this mileage is contained in the 1,985 miles that now constitute the State system but the greater part is new.
(The Southern Planter, Apr. 15.)

Warehousing Cotton

The building of more cotton storage warehouses in the North in order that the cotton may be near the mills when it is needed, was a recommendation made by Randall N. Durfee, chairman of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers, at its annual convention yesterday. He stated that while there has been great deflation in cotton prices, he believed the loss would have been even greater but for the storing of some cotton near the textile centers. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 22.)

Water Route for Idaho Wool

Southern Idaho sheepmen may ship their wool clip to market by water routes via Portland. Prominent wool growers are said to be investigationg the possible savings in freight charges through shipment of the wool clip by water to Boston. It is believed that the Portland steamer route would mean a saving of at least one cent per pound to wool growers. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 21.)

Wheat Marketing

More than a thousand wheat growers at a mass meeting at Enid, Okla., April 20, unanimously adopted the compulsory pooling plan of the National Wheat Growers Association in preference to an optional pooling plan offered by the Committee of Seventeen at Chicago in connection with its program for the cooperative handling of the grain. (Wash. Post, Apr. 22.)

Wheat Prices

Dollar wheat was reached at Bloomsburg, Pa., April 20, according to a statement in the Phila. Public Ledger for April 21, which says that this is the lowest price since 1914, when wheat was around 90 cents a bushel.

Wool in Idaho and Oregon to be Stored

Idaho and Oregon wool growers recently voted to store the 1921 clip until market conditions improve, at a meeting called by Boise bankers.
(Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 21.)

Department of Agriculture

1. "Very grave concern is felt among mohair growers of South Africa, as the future of the industry is jeopardized by present low values and limited demand for their produce. A special government scholarship has been provided, by terms of which a graduate from the sheep and wool course of the agricultural school at Grootfontein will be required to spend the period from January to September, 1921, in acquiring experience and knowledge of the mohair industry, then proceeding to the technical college at Bradford, Eng., for the opening course. His preparation in this way will fit him as expert adviser to the mohair farmers in their growing and marketing problems. The United States Department of Agriculture is requested to appoint a man to serve in similar capacity for the growers of America." (Angora and Milk Goat Journal for April.)

2. "The Agricultural Department announces that the outlook for the winter wheat crop is good - at this time promising a larger yield than last year. We are frank to say we do not believe this report is correct. We think later returns will show greater winter injury than is now reported. The spring wheat crop seeding promises to be about normal." (Rural New Yorker, Apr. 23.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 27. April 23, 1921.

Speculation in farm products through sales on future exchanges without actual ownership of the commodity would be made a felony under a bill indorsed yesterday by the National Farmers' Union convention at its final session at Washington. It was announced that the measure would be introduced in Congress and would have the support of the cotton and grain membership of the Farmers' Union. (Press of Apr. 23.)

A. C. Davis, secretary-treasurer of the National Farmers' Union, submitted a resolution yesterday calling upon the Department of Agriculture to divorce itself from all farm organizations, leaving every association of tillers of the soil to stand on its own feet. The Committee on banking and currency was asked to investigate statements that the Department of Agriculture was fostering a certain organization of alleged farmers and to suggest such action as would make it impossible under the law for the Department to discriminate against one organization in favor of another. (Wash.Herald, Apr. 23.)

That cotton growers are on the verge of bankruptcy, and that because of the slash in prices and the non-movement of cotton conditions are really worse than in Civil War times, was the statement made by David R. Croker, of Hartsville, S. C., before the convention of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers at Boston yesterday. He said the South has not had an adequate return on its production of cotton, except for a brief period in forty years. Because of lack of warehouses and classification the banks are only guessing at the values on which to establish credit, he said. He urged thorough investigation by a bureau. (Press of Apr. 23.)

A committee of western and southern senators called upon President Harding yesterday. They told him that the farmers must have some relief through the Farm Loan Board. Wheat, they pointed out, for instance, was selling at the farm for 70 cents a bushel, which is actually below cost of production, and with the present high transportation rates makes it impossible to market it. They urged upon the President the necessity of bringing about more liberal terms for the farmers in their relations with the banks, giving them opportunity to rediscount their paper at reasonable rates.
(Wash. Post, Apr. 23.)

Agricultural Organization

"More Government in Business or Less," is the title of an editori in the Chicago Tribune for April 21, which says in part: "Although the Trade Commission's report is in obedience to a request of the Presiden for its observations on the cost of living, its leading recommendation do not seem to express very well Mr. Harding's declaration that he means to have 'less of government in business.' As in the case of all official bodies, the commission's tendency is not in the direction of less power for itself. *** In other words, the commission wants more government in business, not less. *** Voluntary cooperative organization by agricultural producers and by consumers for their own benefi should be fostered, but by freedom, not by government intervention."

California College of Agriculture

The suggestions made regardin changes in the California College of Agriculture will not be carried out during the present session of the legislature, according to the California Cultivator for April 16. A committee is to be formed to investigate the work of the university and its needs and recommend to the next legislature, which will convene in 1923, the best steps to take to establish a permanent and a great agricultural educational institution.

Cooperative Elevator Construction in Australia

The Western Australian Legislative Assembly passed the third reading of a bill recently giving the Western Australian Grain Growers Cooperative Elevators, Ltd., the sole right for 25 years to erect elevators for the bulk handling of grain. The work is estimated to cost 800,000 pounds. The federal government would advance the greater part of the funds, the loan repayable in two annual installments. (The American Elevator and Grain Trade, Apr. 15.)

Cotton

"Many remedies proposed for the benefit of the raw cotton market sound like prescription without a diagnosis. A study of the International Cotton Spinners' Association's report, just published in Manchester, on the world's idle spindles for six months ending January 1, might show why cotton is a drug in the market. A little further study of economic conditions should convince even the grower that the situation cannot be cured simply by exporting cotton, or by levying a tariff on the products of other countries. *** The figures show why there is so little demand for our cotton." (Wall St. Jour, Apr. 22.)

Cotton in Australia

That Australia may shortly assume a commanding position among the cotton producing countries of the world is indicated by the reports from Queenstown where comparatively large crops are assured this season, says the Journal of Commerce for April 22. The Queensland Agricultural Department supplies the farmers with seed and advances them 11 cents on each pound of cotton they raise. It is estimated that about 250 tons of seed will be made available after the treatment of the present crop.

Cotton Export Plan

To meet the need for a practical plan which will aid the cotton planter, merchant and banker of the South, and the like need on the part of the textile manufacturers of certain foreign countries for the import of American cotton, a plan originated by Fleming D. Fowler is presented in ~~Commerce Reports for April 22~~ Journal of Commerce, for April 22.

Cotton Marketing Agency

The American Cotton Growers' Exchange, one of the largest commodity selling organizations ever proposed in the United States, was formed by representatives of the state marketing associations of Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, California, and North Carolina at a meeting at Oklahoma City, April 21. The exchange will have its headquarters at Dallas, Tex. (N.Y. Daily News Record, Apr. 22.)

Creamery Management

If the dairy and creamery men would put forth only a small part of the effort that has been exerted by such organizations as the fruit growers of the west, the consumption of dairy products would be greatly increased, was a statement of Professor Hortensen of Iowa in a recent talk on creamery management before the Mississippi Creamery Association reviewed in Chicago Dairy Produce for April 19.

Dust Hazard

"Better Attack the Dust Hazard at Its Source," is the title of an editorial in The American Elevator and Grain Trade for April 15, which calls attention to a number of letters from elevator builders and insurance experts on the Port Colborne disaster in that issue. It also says: "Why do the country operators continue to take in and ship dirty grain, paying the farmer grain prices for material of low value and paying grain rates for transporting it? *** Give the farmer back his dust and trash, pay him for the clean grain at clean grain prices, and the explosion menace is gone."

Farm Banks

"No Farm Banks," is the title of an editorial in Capper's Farmer for May, which states that in a number of communities farmers worth $10,000 to $30,000 and more, without incumbrances, are having to mortgage land for 3 to 5 years to obtain little loans of $200 or $300 dollars. "But why should the farmer put up with this kind of a credit system? It is uneconomic, unbusinesslike, inadequate and harmful. Why not get a banking system that can finance farming?" says the editorial.

Finance

Agricultural interests continue to force expansion in loans in the Southwest. Despite the efforts of member banks and of the Federal Reserve Bank at Kansas City to restrict expansion, the Southwest is witnessing a gradual tightening of money. Under present conditions, any day may force the Federal Reserve bank to resort again to borrowing from other central banks - so tight is money in the Southwest. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 22.)

Government Meat Sale

Sale of the War Department's surplus supply of canned meats, approximately 81,000,000 pounds, to Thomas Roberts & Co., of Philadelphia, for $5,316,276, was announced yesterday before the House Military Committee by Assistant Secretary Wainwright. (Press of Apr. 23

Grain Growers Warned

Farmers are warned by the President of the United States Grain Growers, Inc., not to allow the clean-up plan of the Chicago Board of Trade to affect them in making their arrangements to market their grain through the new machine now being set up by the national sales agency. C. H. Gastafson, president of the new organization, has issued a statement to this effect, which appears in the Chicago Tribune for April 21.

Grain Markets

The grain markets showed a better undertone yesterday than for several weeks, according to a Chicago dispatch to the New York Times of today.

Road Revenues in Tennessee

Three bills have been passed by the state legislature of Tennessee relative to revenues for the State Highway Department. One of these distributes 25 per cent of the automobile tax collected by the State Highway Department and the remainder to the county in which it has been collected. The second bill levies a tax of one per cent on gasoline sold in the state, which will be added to the general highway fund and distributed to the various counties. The third bill levies a tax of one mill tax on assessments throughout the state. The total revenue from all sources will approximate $1,675,000 for the state Highway Department and $1,075,000 for the counties, exclusive of Federal appropriations and individual bond issues. (Manufacturers Record, Apr. 21.)

Southwest Georgia Pecan Industry

"The pecan industry in Southwest Georgia is no longer an experiment, but may be said in all truthfulness and sincerity to be a demonstrated, provable and proved success. The annual returns from the pecan crop of Southwest Georgia are now running into big figures, and with more orchards coming into bearing and those already in bearing increasing their yield as they grow older, the money value of the nut crop will soon surpass that of the cotton crop or any other 'money crop' of this favored section." (From an editorial in the Albany, Ga., Herald, reprinted in American Nut Journal for April.)

Training Farm Labor

"The Human Machine on the Land," is the title of an article by W. J. Malden, in The Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture of Great Britain for April. In it the author suggests a technique in training farm labor, stating that much labor at the present time employed in arable farming is inefficient, and consequently energy is misdirected. Assuming that 100 per cent represents the efficiency for all round skill, the average for the whole country today is not more than 60 per cent, he says.

Wheat in North Carolina

Most of the millers in North Carolina want more wheat raised in their sections, and are willing to give both time and money to bring it about. The agricultural department of North Carolina is at work in bringing this to the attention of the farmers and offering them aid. (The Dixie Miller, April.)

World's Capacity for Cotton Goods

Factors affecting the present world market for cotton goods and the world's capacity for consumption are analyzed in Commerce Reports for April 20, from figures supplied by Commercial Attache Dennis, at London. Reviewing statistics from 1877, the statement affirms that the war tended to curtail not only the growing of cotton but also the spinning and weaving of the fiber. The deduction drawn from the facts presented is, briefly; that while there has been a marked setback to the purchasing power of the world in the amount of cotton goods, there has been a corresponding setback to the production of cotton. With a return of the world to a normal state of economy, buying will be resumed, idle looms and spindles will be speeded up, and an insistent demand for raw material may be anticipated.

Conventions

1. Recodification and radical revision of oil trading rules will be an important feature of the Interstate Cotton Seed Crushers' Association convention at Chicago, May 18-20, according to The National Provisioner for April 16.

2. The program for the 26th annual convention of the Association of Operative Millers, to be held at Buffalo, June 6-11, is given in The Dixie Miller for April.

Department of Agriculture

1. "Secretary Wallace, in his address at Chicago convention of farm organizations, told his auditors that they had been most wise in not undertaking to 'wipe out our great marketing machinery which has been built up through a long period of time as increasing production made necessary.' The sentiment is a credit to the sagacity of the Secretary of Agriculture; and while the action of the convention coincided with his sentiment, and with his praise of the absence of price-fixing attempts in the committee's marketing plan, it must not be inferred that all farmers have given up either the idea of wrecking the present marketing system or the purpose of fixing prices. *** If the Department of Agriculture is to act in an advisory capacity to farmers as he thinks it ought, there is plenty of work cut out for it. The Department should begin to find a remedy for the 'loco' disease of the imagination that some of our leaders have acquired."
(The Am. Elevator and Grain Trade, Apr. 15.)

2. "Succeeding in Scientific Farming," is the title of an article by Raymond Francis Yates, in Scientific American for April 23. In this article, which the author states is based largely on information obtained from Dr. H. C. Taylor, Chief of the Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics, he presents a survey of opportunities awaiting the man who is going back to the land. He says: "Science has invaded every realm of human endeavor and farming has been no exception. Science is showing the way to better, bigger crops, healthier stock and greater efficiency in farm management. *** The gospel of scientific farming through the good work of our Department of Agriculture, is fast spreading and the farm is becoming more and more like an industry."

3. "Farmers will view with disapproval, if not alarm, the attempt to transfer the work of collecting agricultural statistics from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to the Department of Commerce, with all other statistical collection. Just at a time when farm statistics have come to mean so much to business agriculture it would seem that the necessity of having them collected and interpreted by trained farm experts is of paramount importance. *** Government statistics are in higher favor than ever and what farmers want is the highest possible development in this line of government work. The farm organizations and individual farmers should let their members of Congress and the Secretary of Agriculture know that they prefer the statistical work of agriculture left with the U.S. Department of Agriculture."
(From editorial in The Ohio Farmer, Apr. 23.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Vol. 1, no. 28. April 25, 1921.

A legislative program calling for railroad rate revision, amendment of the Transportation act of 1920 to do away with the guarantee features, a tariff which would give protection to agriculture, adequate credit facilities for farmers and other important points was announced April 23 by the executive committee of the American Farm Bureau Federation and representatives of the state federations which have been in conference at Washington during the last two weeks.

The executive committee of the American Farm Bureau Federation has indorsed the principles of the McFadden-Kenyon rural credits and multiple insurance bill for agricultural production. The McFadden-Kenyon bill provides for the creation of a federal multiple insurance charter authorizing the issuance of insurance against any and every contingency, a privilege many foreign insurance companies enjoy.

At hearings before the Federation's finance committee it was shown that the cattle insurance rates in some states were 220 per cent in excess of those in another state, and that fire insurance rates paid by farmers in some states were 300 per cent greater than in other states.
(Wash. Herald, April 25.)

Amendment of the Esch-Cummins railroad act so that priority would be given shipments of food and reduction of freight rates was urged April 23 in resolutions adopted by the International Apple Shippers and National League of Commission Merchants at Chicago. The resolutions said that reduced freight rates would result in the release of enormous quantities of foodstuffs now held in storage. (Press of April 24.)

"Do farmers realize the great danger to them in some of the pending legislation in Congress? There are six or eight bills now in committee whose enactment would, to their business, be like a monkeywrench thrown into the machinery of a power station. There is, for instance, the bill introduced by Mr. Caraway of Arkansas, entitled 'A bill to prevent the sale of cotton and grain in future markets'. If this, or any of the lot, became a law the cotton planter and the surplus grain grower would be put out of business. A staggering blow would be dealt to commerce also, because it rests upon agriculture. ***." (Wall St. Jour., April 25.)

Agricultural Relief Measures

"The Farmers' Appeal to the President," is the title of an editorial in The Journal of Commerce for April 23, which says, in part: "In a memorial addressed to the President the National Farmers' Union now urges a meeting of the best minds in agriculture, industry, commerce and finance for the purpose of studying the causes of and planning remedies for the present 'disastrous' economic situation. *** We have here another proposal arising out of the apparent thought that panaceas are to be found in conferences, special measures, legislation and otherwise. *** To suppose that systems can be radically improved or men be forced to reform overnight by measures such as have been proposed by and for the farmers is the worst of folly. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 23.)

Arkansas Road Laws

A suit to test the constitutionality of the Arkansas road laws under the Federal as well as the Arkansas constitution was filed in the chancery court of Ashley County, Ark., on April 7 by landowners and taxpayers of what is known as the Wilmot Road District, according to the New York Times, April 24.

Cotton

"That we believe the efforts to induce the cotton planters to reduce the acreage in cotton about to be planted is now of paramount importance to the South, and that we believe that the reduction should not be less than 35 per cent," was part of a resolution passed by the Federal International Banking Co., at its recent meeting in New Orleans. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 23.)

Cotton Crop of India

Total cotton crop of India, season of 1920-21, is 3,556,000 bales of 400 pounds each, equivalent to 2,650,000 American bales. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 25.)

Crops for Canning

The necessity of getting more and more canning varieties of fruit and vegetables from less acreage is one of canner's chief problems, according to C. G. Woodbury, director of the bureau of raw products research of the National Canners' Association. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 23.)

Farm Loan System

"Save the Farm Loan Act," is the title of an editorial in The Pacific Homestead for April 14, which, making a plea for the preservation of the federal Farm Loan system, says, in part: "The federal Farm Loan system has had a hard fight for its existence. It is hampered by unfriendly amendments in Congress. It is fought by the national association of farm mortgage bankers, and, worst of all, it is administered by a board that is not in sympathy with the co-operative features of the act, nor in sympathy with the farmers of the nation."

French Agricultural Exposition

A complete exposition of all kinds of agricultural machinery and implements has been arranged for by the committee of manufacturers of agricultural machinery of France at the annual fair which will be held at Paris May 10-25. (Journal d'Agriculture, Apr. 9.)

Fertilizers for Cotton

That reduction in the use of fertilizers for cotton is far greater than heretofore estimated by various authorities, is the statement of the American Cotton Association, which has completed an investigation of the matter. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 25.)

Financing Farmers

Over $4,000,000 for the farmers of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama soon will be available through the sale of federal land bank bonds, T. F. Davis, president of the New Orleans branch, announced April 23. (Wash. Star, Apr. 24.)

Foreign Trade

1. Exports of domestic breadstuffs, cottonseed oil, meat and dairy products, cotton, and mineral oils, from the United States during March and the nine months ending March, 1921, with the figures for the corresponding period last year, are given in Commerce Reports for April 21.

2. It is reported that a loan of 1,000,000 Swedish crowns has been proffered by the government of Sweden to Latvia, the money if accepted, to be spent in Sweden for the purchase of agricultural machinery. That little agricultural machinery hitherto has been imported into Latvia has come from Sweden and Germany. In January, 1921, the Latvian government placed an order for 1,000 reaping and mowing machines. On this order the best price a large American company could offer was three times that submitted by a German firm. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 22.)

Fruit Export Plant

The establishment of a $2,000,000 to $3,000,000 fruit transshipment plant at Baltimore has been suggested by the Port Development Commission, in conjunction with the municipal officials, according to The Journal of Commerce for April 23. An extensive fruit export trade is proposed from the Pacific Coast, especially of apples from the Far Northwest.

Fruit Marketing by Mail

The success of the "Consumer-Producer" method of marketing his fruit developed by Albert Joy, a Rogue River rancher, is described by O. H. Darnhill, associate editor, in the Pacific Homestead for April 14. The parcels post was the agency chiefly responsible for the initial success of an enterprise which in 12 years has grown from small to large proportions.

Gift Cows to Germany Sick

Seven hundred milch cows, the gift of American farmers, are sick at Bremen with Texas fever, according to report to Washington Star for April 24. They will not be distributed to inland cities according to allotments agreed upon. The cargo represents an American market value of $200,000, including cost of transportation, equivalent to 13,000,000 marks, whereas the same value of cows would cost in Germany 3,000,000 marks, according to Voerwarts, which approves the plan now under way to replace shipments of cows with fodder.

Legislation

The action of Governor Edwards of New Jersey in refusing to sign the bill, passed by the legislature of that state, which sought to prohibit the sale of condensed skim milk containing vegetable oil and sold under trade names, tends to confirm the opinion before expressed that the dairy industry would find it more effective to direct its efforts to a rigid control of this imitation dairy product by both federal and state laws, rather than aim for a country-wide prohibition. (N.Y. Produce Review and Am. Creamery, Apr. 20.)

eat and Lard torage Stocks

Cold storage stocks of meats and lard in the United States on April 1 were 1,238,116,000 pounds, or 204,000,000 pounds less than a year ago and 22,000,000 less than a month ago, according to report of the Institute of American Meat Packers. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 25.)

ilk Marketing n Maryland

The dairymen of Frederick Co., Md., are subscribing toward the $100,000 fund to erect a surplus milk plant in Washington. The proposed plant is to utilize all that the dealers cannot or will not take. (Wash. Star, Apr. 24.)

ilk ubstitutes

A list of evaporated milk substitutes and their ingredients, placed on the market in Pennsylvania and in other states, is given in an extensive article by A. A. Miller, editor of the Milk Producers' Review, in Northwest Dairyman and Farmer for April. He states that it is quite evident that in being able to obtain imitations and substitutes for condensed milk products the public is having perpetrated upon it a fraud, and these substitutes are now being sold for human consumption, lacking the necessary growth promoting elements.

live Industry n South ustralia

South Australia bids fair to become a rival of California as an olive producer. The industry is regarded so favorably that it is being developed with government support. South Australia produced in 1918-1919 11,411 cwt of olives and 22,944 gallons of oil. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 23.)

live Oil nd the Tariff

"We represent a very large portion of the importers of olive oil in the United States who have developed a tremendous consumption for olive oil by spending large sums of money in commercial and scientific research and imparting this information to the American public by means of continuous advertising. So far as we know, neither California nor Arizona, where all the olives in the United States are raised, have done very much but force high prices of olive oil upon the American public and let the importers do the work of developing a market. *** It is of interest to everyone to know that in raising the duty, which in turn raises the price to the consumer, it means that the consumer will not pay the increased price for the olive oil." (From a lengthy review of the olive oil industry, contributed by Olive Oil Importers' Association, to Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 23.)

Packers Accept Bank

Justice Stafford, of the District of Columbia Supreme Court, was notified April 23 of the acceptance of the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank of Chicago, as depository by Armour and Co. and Swift and Co. for certificates of stock and other evidence of ownership in stockyards, stockyard railroads and stockyard publications. (Wash. Star, Apr. 24.)

Peanut Grading Standards

Raising of the standards of peanut grading is advocated by O.M. Sudler, a peanut broker of Philadelphia, in The Journal of Commerce for April 23. He states that it will be one of the greatest blows the industry can receive to establish a grading which will allow a shipper to deliver as standard a product which is 9 per cent off grade.

Peruvian Grazing Industry

That the southern section of Peru is highly important as a probable future source of the world's wool supply is the opinion expressed by the representative of an investigation which has been made under the joint auspices of the Peruvian goverment and the Peruvian Corporation (British), for the expansion of the grazing and cattle industry in southern Peru. The necessity for putting a finer grade of wool on the market has become evident in view of the fact that the wool trade is now demanding the production of a fiber suitable for manufacturing hosieries and fine cashmeres. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 22.)

Sugar

It is estimated that the German sugar production for the 1920-21 period will reach a total of 970,000 tons. It will probably be necessary to supplement this amount by an importation of 20,000 tons. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 22.)

Taxing Logged-Off Lands

"Taxing Logged-Off Lands," is the title of an editorial in The Pacific Homestead for April 14, which states that logged off lands is an abuse in Oregon and, it presumes, in Washington. It says: "In this state the big companies are permitted to hold land from settlements, asking an exorbitant price for it, but paying a very small tax on a valuation of something like $1 per acre. When it is sold to a settler, it is assessed at $10 an acre, and as soon as he clears an acre, at $50 an acre. Is this fair? Does this policy help to settle up our barren regions?"

Tobacco in Indiana

Reports from the State Board of Agriculture of Indiana indicate that more tobacco will be raised in that state during the coming season than ever before in its history. It is thought by the state agricultural officials that in time tobacco will be raised all through the central and southern sections where soil conditions will permit. (Western Tobacco Journal, Apr. 19.)

Wheat Control in Switzerland

The federal food administration of Switzerland is discussing the practicability of government control of wheat. Some fear is expressed that the fixation of prices of wheat and bread by the government may cause great political disturbance. (Bul. des Halles, Apr.1.)

Department of Agriculture

B.H. Rawl, assistant chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, is one of the most widely known dairy specialists in the world. He has been largely instrumental in bringing about the great advance of the past decade or so in scientific dairying. (Northwest Dairyman and Farmer for April.)

Select List of new books added to library

Fippin, E.O. Rural New York. 1921.
Great Britain. Dept. of overseas trade. General report on the industrial and economic situation in Germany in Dec. 1920, by J.W.F.Thelwall, assisted by C.J.Kavanagh. 1921.
Nystrom, P.H. The economics of retailing. 2d ed. 1920.
Severance, H.O. Guide to the current periodicals and serials of the U. S. and Canada. Ed. 4. 1920.
Snedden, D.S. Vocational education. 1920.
Comey, A.M. Dictionary of chemical solucilities; inorganic. 2d ed. 1921.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 29. April 26, 1921.

Creation of a joint commission of agriculture to investigate conditions affecting the farming industry and to suggest remedial legislation was proposed in a resolution introduced in Congress yesterday by Senator Lenroot of Wisconsin and Representative Strong of Kansas. The measure was presented at the request of the associated farm organizations which met in Washington last week. The President would be authorized to name the commission, which would report within 90 days on various specified questions.

A similar resolution was introduced by Senator Robinson of Arkansas, who asked that a special inquiry be made into milling charges on rice. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 26.)

Repeal of the Transportation act authorizing the Interstate Commerce Commission to fix freight and passenger rates to allow railroads a minimum return of 6 per cent annually on their property investment is asked in a bill introduced in the Senate yesterday by Senator Capper. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 26.)

Senator Townsend of Michigan, chairman of the committee on postoffices and public roads, yesterday reviewed the public roads bill, which he intends to introduce in Congress this week, with representatives of the American Farm Bureau Federation, the American Automobile Association, and others, to familiarize these interests with the bill and to ask for their suggestions. All of the interests agreed to back the principles for which the bill stands with the exception of the American Farm Bureau Federation, which went on record as favoring Federal assistance in the building of the farm-to-market roads. (Wash. Post, Apr. 26.)

Studies made by the Department of Commerce disclose that reductions in retail prices are not keeping pace with those in the wholesale trade, Secretary Hoover said yesterday. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 26.)

Bread took a fall of approximately 15 per cent in price throughout Chicago yesterday. (Press of Apr. 26.)

Australian Merino Wool

"Value of Australian-Bred Merinos; The Cry Against Exportation," is the title of an article in Buenos Aires Herald for March 12 which quotes extensively and with approval from an article by "a correspondent resident in the United States." It says in part "The complaint in a few Australian quarters about exporting high-priced merino sheep to South Africa is really more foolish than it appears on the surface. Any improvement in South African merino wool will merely make that country a stronger competitor of South America. Australia is an ideal merino-producing country, and no other country in the world will ever succeed in growing combing merino wool to the average and choice qualities grown in Australia."

Bookkeeping

"The National Farmers Union (England) proposes to appoint a travelling costings officer, for the purpose of instructing farmers in the preparation of their accounts."
(Agricultural Gazette, London, Apr. 1.)

Cotton

1. "The rather curious impression remains with the observer of the course of events in the American and British cotton futures markets during the past week that the predominant influences, at least of a psychological order, have been bullish, yet that the net movement of prices has been moderately downward. The great majority of traders in cotton on both sides of the Atlantic appear now to be convinced that the cotton industry everywhere has at last entered what may safely be regarded as the earlier stage of permanent improvement, and that the necessary result of this improvement, as it progresses, must be an advancing market for the raw material."
(A. R. Marsh, in The Economic World for Apr. 23.)

2. The progress of the cotton-mill industry in India during the last ten years is shown in statistics, taken from the report of the Bombay Millowners' Association for the year 1919 given in Commerce Reports for April 23. The report shows that although there has been no very great increase in the number of spindles during the 10-year period and none whatever in the production of yarn, there has been a very considerable increase in the number of looms and the production of cotton cloth.

Diversified Farming in Florida

"No Chance for the One-Crop Farmer," is the title of an editorial in The Farmer and Stockman for April 15, which states that there never has been nor will there ever be a chance for the uniform success of the one-crop farmer of Florida or any other state. "To those growers who failed to receive enough in return to pay the freight charges on some of their carlot shipments recently, we wish to say that there is not a case on record in the United States wherein a farmer ever shipped a car of cattle, hogs or sheep to market and failed to receive enough for the shipment to pay the freight. Florida fruit and vegetable growers will do well to give this statement some thought," the editorial says.

Diversified Farming in the South

"What's the Matter with the South?" is the title of an article by Will M. Traer, in The Farmer and Stockman for April 15. He states that the South can take a lesson from the response of Kansas to a similar question and raise more corn, cattle and hogs and less cotton,
(Cont'd on page 3.)

Diversified Farming in the South (Cont'd)

tobacco and truck. "The United States Department of Agriculture and the southern agricultural schools as well as a part of the farm press of the South have campaigned persistently in favor of diversified farming with live stock during the past few years with some results, but not what there should be. Heretofore the South has been a great benefit and blessing to the North because we have merely made a living from our products of the soil which have been shipped north for the profit of northern speculators and tradesmen. The cash we have received for such products has then been sent back north to buy for our consumption or use, beef, pork, mutton, milk, eggs, butter, clothing, automobiles and other manufactured articles of all kinds."

Experiment Stations

"Experiment Stations as an Investment," is the title of an article by J. G. Lipman, director of the N. J. Experiment Station, in Pennsylvania Farmer for April 23. He outlines the development of the experiment station in this country and abroad, concluding that, all told, the American experiment stations have been a profitable investment, and if properly supported will continue to be a profitable investment. He says: "We cannot afford to forget that the American experiment stations are deserving of the best trained men and of the best equipment in order that their experiments and investigations may be permitted to explore the unknown and to hold up the hands of the farmer who is trying to adapt himself to the new conditions in the agricultural industry and to meet the competition of farmers in other lands."

Farmers and City Workers

"City Workers Versus Farmers," is the title of an editorial in Wallace's Farmer for April 22, which, in an analysis of the situation shows that it is the city laboring man who today is standing between the farmer and reasonable prices for the things which he buys. City laboring men, because they are organized so that they can cause capital serious trouble are still able to hold their wages up to twice the prewar level, whereas the farmer is selling his labor for less than the prewar normal. "The farmer must steer clear of entangling alliances both with labor and with capital," the editorial states. "He must develop the strategic strength of his own position, and eventually try to convince these two exceedingly selfish classes of society of the necessity of all three classes working together in harmony."

Farmers' Share of National Wealth

"Where the Money Goes," is the title of an article in Wallace's Farmer for April 22, which states that before the war the people of the United States earned every year about $33,000,000,000, or about $1,400 for the average family. The worst paid families were the farmers' families, who received an average of only about $500 each. Before the war the United States paid every year about 50 per cent of its income to the city working people, 12 per cent to the farmers, *** . Today matters have changed, and for the year 1921 the city working people will get about 56 per cent of the income of the United States, ***. The greatest cut will be with the farmers, who will get only about 7 per cent of the income of the United States.

Financing Foreign Exports

An editorial in Wallace's Farmer for April 22 reviews the plans for financing exports from such countries as the United States and Argentina to Europe. It states that under the Ter Meulen scheme - named for the Dutchman who originated it - the European nation who wishes to buy from this country pledges its railroads, its customs duties or whatever it has which is a good asset, and bonds are issued against these assets. "When the Ter Meulen scheme, the War Finance Corporation, and the Edge law corporations all get down to work there should be raised enough credit to finance the leading countries of central and southern Europe," the editorial says.

Forestry

The Chamber of Commerce of the United States has announced the appointment of a committee to study the whole question of the forestry situation of the United States with the ultimate view of suggesting a forestry policy. This committee will hold its first meeting at the time of the annual meeting of the Chamber at Atlantic City, April 27-29. (The Financial Age, Apr. 23.)

Freight Rates on Fruits and Vegetables

Henry J. Ford of the Interstate Commerce Commission, will conduct the conferences relative to fruits and vegetables in Los Angeles, on May 3; in San Francisco, on May 6; and in Denver on May 10. These conferences are called at the request of the California and Colorado legislatures. (Federal Trade Information Service, Apr. 25.)

Freight Rates on Grain

Texas Grain Dealers Association yesterday filed a complaint with the Interstate Commerce Commission protesting against present rates on coarse grains and grain sorghums and asking the establishment of reasonable transit regulations from Texas to southeastern points, including Vicksburg, Memphis and New Orleans.
(Phila. Ledger, Apr. 26.)

Legislation

Three bills actively supported by the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation which were beaten in the recent Iowa legislature were the constitutional convention bill; a bill that would limit the action to contest the validity of public bonds, and which was especially valuable for schools and other public improvements; and a bill which defined the procedure in foreclosures, being an attempt to bring some relief in the matter of foreclosures of mortgages.
(Wallace's Farmer, Apr. 22.)

Milk Marketing

1. "When Consumer and Producer Get Acquainted," is the title of an editorial in The Jersey Bulletin for April 20, which states that producers of milk are beginning to realize the importance of closer relationship with the consumers. It says, in part: "The dairyman has finally realized that if he wants to be 'represented in court,' he must lay aside the milk pail and hay fork and look after the matter himself. Consequently we find in numerous communities organized effort on the part of the dairymen to prove that prices received for their milk are not exorbitant or even adequate." The editorial cites Indianapolis as an outstanding example of satisfactory results obtained from mutual knowledge of existing conditions.

arketing ilk

2. "Indiana Dairymen and Chicago's Daily Milk Supply," is the title of an article in The Indiana Farmer's Guide, for April 23 telling "the producers side of the story." It states that the producers in the Chicago district feel that they have not been getting enough for the milk considering the price that consumers have had to pay. Recounting the producers' problems it asks how the dairy industry can be made more profitable and answers as follows: "The quickest road to more profits for the dairyman appears to be through advertising. It is a project in which producers and distributors should cooperate. The field for advertising milk is entirely undeveloped."

leomargine onsumption

"Do you Eat Oleo?" is the title of an editorial in Indiana Farmer's Guide for April 23, which states that statistics show that one-third of the farmers in this country are using oleomargarine. The conclusion of an argument against the use of the substitute is: "Let every farmer use butter on his table and encourage everyone else to use it. Why not boycott the oleo maker and boost your own business?"

ure-Bred ndustry

"Now is the time to drive into the minds of farmers everywhere the fact that pure-bred live stock is selling at bargain prices. The fundamental values are there and many shrewd farmers are recognizing the fact by gradually getting into the business on the ground floor. Destructive criticism might have done the pure-bred industry some good in 1919 and 1920, but at the present moment what is wanted is constructive advice. *** There never was such a time as the present for laying out a program for constructive pure-bred live stock breeding." (From editorial in Wallace's Farmer for Apr. 22.)

ool Marketing n Iowa

A three-year contract for Iowa wool growers was approved at the meeting of the officers of the Iowa Fleece Wool Growers' Association in Des Moines, April 14. A contract was also authorized with the National Wool Warehouse and Storage Company for the handling of the wool clip of Iowa in the same manner as it has been handled during the past two years. (Wallace's Farmer, Apr. 22.)

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epartment of griculture

1. "The decision of the Washington authorities as to whether so-called 'adulterated butter' shall be taxed 10 cents per pound is now expected to be made May 1.*** No one of course can know what the decision will be, but it is a fact that the dairy interests have fought a good fight in presenting their viewpoint against the tax, and the fact that the Department has seen fit to give more time for consideration may reasonably be taken as not altogether discouraging. *** If the Department decides to enforce payment of the proposed tax, it will be one of the hardest blows the dairy business has been dealt in many days." (The Jersey Bulletin, Apr. 20.)

2. Referring to Mr. B. H. Rawl's acceptance of a position in California, an editorial in The Pacific Dairy Review for April says:"It is of course to be regretted that this class of men are being lost to our Governmental institutions."

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Vol. 1, no. 30. April 27, 192

By direction of President Harding, the Federal Reserve Board has undertaken a special inquiry into the problem of deflating industrial values without serious injury to the agricultural interests. It is understood that some steps to aid agriculture in connection with the deflation trend may be taken by the board in the near future.

Three main suggestions are being carefully considered and it is believed that out of these will come a concert of action that will lessen the pressure now bearing so heavily on farmers. The first suggestion is a lowering of the rediscount rates of the Federal Reserve banks, especially in agricultural regions. Another suggestion is a readjustment of railway wage rates. On many agricultural products the freight rates now amount to more than the cost of the staple. Still another idea is the arrangement of short-term credits for farmers based on warehouse receipts on stored agricultural products.
(N. Y. Times, Apr. 27.)

Declaring their record crop, valued at $11,000,000, to be threatened with loss through high freight rates, cantaloupe growers of the Imperial Valley, Calif., presented their plight before western members of Congress and executive officials yesterday. The cost of growing cantaloupes in the Imperial Valley this year, they said, amounted to $1 a crate, while the average freight charged was $1.77 a crate under present rates. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 27.)

Farmers, live stock producers and shippers yesterday filed complaints with the Interstate Commerce Commission that railroads had increased the fixed charges for handling live stock in Chicago to a greater percentage than was authorized by orders of the commission last August increasing the rates.
(N. Y. Times, Apr. 27.)

A decline of 3 per cent in wholesale prices during March was announced last night by the Federal Reserve Board on the basis of index numbers compiled for the purpose of comparison. On the basis of prices in 1913 indexed as 100, commodities imported shifted from 113 in February to 114 in March. Prices of exports declined from 135 in February to 125 in March. The all-commodity index stands at 150, as compared with 154 in February. (Press of Apr. 27.)

Aid for Farmers

An appeal to bankers to relieve the agricultural crisis, "now at the most acute stage so far as prices are concerned," featured the address of Eugene Meyer, Jr., managing director of the War Financing Corporation, before the Bankers' Club of Brooklyn, April 23. This crisis, he said, means that the purchasing power of a great part of the population of the country is impaired and that the commerce and industries of the manufacturing centers are directly involved. "We should seek to discover how we may, with our banking facilities and resources and calling upon our investment markets for the longer term credits, move our goods out of the hands of the primary producers, along the various steps of commerce and industry, and put them where they will be available for consumers in foreign lands."
(Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 26.)

Cooperative Creameries

"The Beginning of the Minnesota Creamery Federation," is the title of an article by Berry H. Akers, in the St. Paul Farmer for April 23, which tells how eleven Meeker County creameries have joined together in an organization termed the Minnesota Cooperative Creameries Association, Unit No. 1, which began business March 31. The article describes the progress of the cooperative movement which has been under way in Meeker County for several months, and which the author believes may be the forerunner of numerous organizations of similar character, leading eventually to the federating of various units into one central selling state organization.

Cotton

Members of the German Association of Colored Cotton Weavers, controlling nearly 150,000 looms, have been discussing possibilities of further curtailment as a result of the uncertainty in regard to the economic sanctions, according to Berlin report to N. Y. Daily News Record for April 26.

Fruit Marketing

Apple growers of Washington and citrus men of Southern California have joined in an agreement to guarantee 9,500 carloads of perishable fruit to a steamship company which has made a tentative proposition to handle this fruit to Gulf and Atlantic markets at a rate substantially lower than the present all-rail rate.
(Phila. Ledger, Apr. 27.)

Grain Futures Trading

The Nebraska Farmer for April 23 publishes a summary of the statement concerning the proposed tax on future trading before the House Committee on Agriculture, prepared by Clifford Thorne, general counsel for the American Farm Bureau Federation and the Farmers' National Grain Dealers Association.

Grain Marketing

A concession to grain growers committed to the pooling plan of cooperative marketing is announced by the board of directors of the U. S. Grain Growers, Inc. The concession is made in the form of a third method of sale which gives the grower the opportunity voluntarily to pool one-third of his wheat crop. This method is provided in addition to the direct sales and entire pooling methods already included in the plan. (Am. Farm Bureau Federation Weekly News Letter for Apr. 21.)

Grain Rates

Interstate Commerce Commission, under special permission No. 52340, cancels minimums on grain and grain products that went into effect Jan. 1. New minimum weights that will be effective May 1, are published in Who is Who in the Grain Trade for April 20.

I. C. C. Regulations

Decision has been announced by the Interstate Commerce Commission holding that the proposed rules and charges governing diversion and reconsignment of fruits were not justified. Other reconsignment regulations proposed to govern other commodities received the sanction of the Commission. It was ordered that the new reconsignment rules approved cannot become effective before April 1, 1922, while the proposed reconsignment rules governing fruit and vegetable shipments must be canceled immediately. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 26.)

Immigrants as Farmers

"Most of our troubles in dealing with the immigration question have been due to the fact that the United States has heretofore had no system of properly assimilating the one million or more immigrants who come to this country each year from foreign lands," says an editorial in the St. Paul Farmer for April 23. "It should be remembered that a very large percentage of these immigrants are farm-raised and farm-trained people, but because they have no objective in this country they enter the unskilled labor occupations and lose the advantage of their early training. *** We are interested in noting that Commissioner of Immigration Husband proposes to divert immigrants from the cities and industrial centers and to coordinate agencies of the Departments of Interior, Agriculture and Labor to place these immigrants on farms."

Living Costs in France

Steady declines in the cost of living in France are shown in figures made public in Paris April 26. They were based on an average struck for 45 articles by the French Bureau of Statistics. Taking 100 as an index figure representing the average of prices for the period from 1901 to 1910, the maximum of prices was reached in September 1920, when the index was 607.5. Since then the index has dropped gradually, that for March being 411.9, or a fall of 32 per cent from the maximum. These figures apply only to wholesale prices. The fall in retail prices is only about 15 per cent. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 26.)

Marketing Berry Products

As a result of two recent conferences between northwestern capitalists and canners, a $10,000,000 corporation has been launched to handle as a unit the canning and preserving of the berry products of Washington and Oregon. The new organization will be known as the Oregon-Washington Canning and Preserving Company and will be incorporated under the laws of the state of Delaware. (The Berry Grower, April.)

Milk Marketing in Minnesota

"The latest move of that giant cooperative organization, the Twin City Milk Producers' Association, is the purchase of the milk powder plant at Anoka, Minnesota," says an article in the St. Paul Farmer for April 23, which records the various efforts of this organization to provide an outlet for the market milk produced by its members. "In a month from now, "the article says, "it will be possible to ship the surplus milk to this factory, separate it, churn the cream into butter, and make powder of the skimmilk. This product sells to candy factories and bakeries."

Milk Marketing Organization

Milk producers from about 18 Illinois and 3 Missouri counties organized themselves into the Southern Illinois and Missouri Milk Producers Association at East St. Louis last week. A detailed survey is now being made of the producing territory about St. Louis for the purpose of ascertaining the best shipping points and locations for cheese, butter and condensing plants. (Ills. Agricultural Assoc. News Letter, No. 49.)

North Dakota Bonds

Mill and elevator bonds of the state of North Dakota in the sum of $2,000,000 will be sold as the result of the indorsement and activities of the president of the North Dakota Farm Bureau Federation. The proceeds will be used to complete the state-owned plant at Grand Forks. (Weekly News Letter for Apr. 21 of Am. Farm Bureau Fed.)

Potato Marketing

Sentiment is rapidly crystallizing in Wisconsin for the organization of the potato growers of that state for cooperative marketing, according to an article in St. Paul Farmer for April 23. Meetings recently held disclosed a demand for a centralized cooperative agency similar to the Minnesota Potato Exchange. The organization of such an exchange in Wisconsin will mean that all the five potato states in the North Central belt - Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota - will be organized. Then, the federation of these state organizations into a district selling agency will be possible.

Prices and Labor

"Business and employment wait upon the movement of prices toward a stable level, and the closing up of the wide gap between wholesale and retail prices. There is evidence that the first is being gradually accomplished, and public opinion must eventually accomplish the second. Costly and inefficient labor is of course still the refractory element." (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 26.)

Pure-Bred Livestock

The New Jersey State Board of Agriculture has started a movement to enlist 1,000 boys and girls of New Jersey as breeders of pure-bred livestock. A fund is being raised from which loans will be made to responsible young people. The organization will be known as the N. J. Junior Breeders' Association. (N. Y. Daily News Record, Apr. 2[illegible])

Tariff

1. "The advocates of a tariff on farm products should consider for a moment whether the retaliation brought to other industries on the part of foreign countries would not offset any benefits derived from such a tariff. This is a question fraught with boomerang effects." (Berry Grower, April.)

2. The French Foreign Office is preparing a protest to Washington against the proposed changes in the United States tariff, it is asserted in foreign trade circles in Paris, according to N. Y. Daily News Record, Apr. 26.)

3. In an editorial on a permanent tariff commission, under the title, "An Old Scheme Revived," The Journal of Commerce for April 26, says: "Congress will never resign its constitutional prerogatives of initiating revenue legislation in favor of an executive or administrative body.

(Cont'd on page 5.)

Tariff (Cont'd)

3. even if it could lawfully do so. In fact it ought not to resign them. There is no such thing as the scientific tariff based on cost of production which tariff commission men urge."

Wool

1. Sellers of fine wool in this country, especially those holding domestic fleeces and superwarp Australian offerings, are banking on a strong market for their supplies. The cheaper and coarser sorts of wool have gone below prewar levels, but growers and dealers have been firm on fine grades because of the relative scarcity thereof. The reckoning upon strength, even for fine wool, may be the throwing of a boomerang in the present state of affairs in the wool trade of the world. (N. Y. Commercial, Apr. 25.)

2. At a new series of wool sales to begin at London May 2, about 40,000 bales will be offered for the account of the British-Australian Wool Realization Association and 37,000 bales privately owned. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 26.) Another article in this issue which gives a survey of the wool situation in Britain says in part: "The Yorkshire woolen textile industry looks with amazement upon the policy that is being pursued with regard to the enormous stocks of sheep's wool in the hands of the British-Austalian Wool Realization Association. This organization has been intrusted with the selling of the wool surplus remaining in possession of the British government, approximately 1,800,000 bales."

3. That the Australian wool situation is extremely grave is the statement of Sir John Higgins, at Melbourne, cabled to N. Y. Daily News Record, Apr. 26. He complains that the action of certain interests threatens a complete breakdown of plans for the regulation of sales and price reserves, and that several banks are disposed to force sales at London. He hints at restricting exports of new wool clips for sale in London and elsewhere.

Department of Agriculture

1. "Secretary Wallace made two particularly interesting points in his address to the delegates from the various states who passed upon the grain marketing plan at Chicago. He said the farmer had a double duty to perform in perfecting a marketing system which would eliminate waste. One duty was to himself and the other to the consumer. He also said that the government was under as great an obligation to help the farmer with his marketing problems as it was to help him with the problems of production. *** It seems to us that if a government has aided any class of people in increasing production that it should, in all consistency, aid that class in marketing its products." (The Nebraska Farmer, Apr. 23.)

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2. Several months ago the owner of a cream shipping station in California was caught in the act of adding cocoanut oil to cream which he sold to a creamery in San Francisco. In reference to this incident The Pacific Dairy Review for April 14 says:"Considerable indignation has been aroused among honorable creamerymen over the fact that federal prosecution of this flagrant case of adulteration was not pressed. "

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Vol. 1, no. 31. April 28, 1921.

"Wall Street is becoming better acquainted with the Department of Agriculture at Washington. It is a wonderful organization, touching the economic life of the people at every angle. It has added uncounted millions and perhaps billions to the country's wealth. It represents one of the cornerstones of business. *** The organization at Washington is the directing brain of American agriculture. Wonderful are its scientific and technical accomplishments. In one Government department at least economists and scientific men of the highest order have deliberately turned their backs upon business advancement for the joy that comes from service to mankind. **** This is the spirit that is building up the agriculture of the country and adding so much to the general prosperity. Wall Street can take off its hat to the Department of Agriculture, knowing that true creative work is poor humanity's nearest approach to the divine."
(Extracts from an editorial in yesterday's Wall Street Journal.)

Modification of federal grades on spring wheat was asked of Secretary Wallace yesterday by representatives of Minnesota, North and South Dakota on the ground that they are too technical to be applied by the country buyers and are causing "widespread discontent" among the farmers who think they are being discriminated against. Representatives of the millers opposed modification, declaring that difficulties would be remedied if country elevators had better trained men. (Press of Apr. 28.)

Revision of sections of the House Emergency Tariff bill was agreed upon yesterday by the Senate Finance Committee. It was decided to strike out the clause authorizing customs collectors to estimate depreciation of foreign currency up to 66 2/3 per cent, which, it has been contended, would bar virtually all goods from Central Europe. Chairman Penrose announced that a substitute adopted would provide for collection of American duties on the foreign market or export value, whichever should be highest. Revising the anti-dumping section, the committee decided that the proposed prohibitive tariff against foreign goods imported for sale in this country below cost or below prices asked in the country of manufacture should not be general. The plan adopted would give the Secretary of the Treasury power to investigate and invoke the prohibitive anti-dumping penalty in cases where he should determine that "dumping" was being practiced. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 28.)

Cooperative Marketing

Commenting upon the statement of Mr. Gustafson in presenting the plan for marketing grain that it is a business proposition which "rests purely on business principles and it is based on the fact that the farmer is as able to commercialize his products and conduct his own business as are the producers of any other products," Hoard's Dairyman for April 29 says editorially: "We like the spirit expressed by Mr. Gustafson. Too many farmers have been looking to the government and to outside agencies for carrying on affairs that rightly belong to them. The farmers of this country have sufficient brain power and initiative to perfect a system of marketing their products without the assistance of the government or any other agency."

Cotton Marketing

Leaders in the movement to pool the American cotton crop as a means of furnishing growers a more advantageous marketing arrangement announced yesterday that machinery would be set in motion at once to put into effect throughout the southern states the plan devised by Aaron Sapiro for county and state marketing pools, which was indorsed at a meeting of southern planters representing twelve cotton growing states meeting at Memphis, Tenn., yesterday. The project would be known as the American Cotton Growers Exchange and its activities would be national in scope. (Wash. Star, Apr. 27.)

Cotton Production Cost

Under the title, "Probable Cost of Producing 1921 Crop," Commerce and Finance for Apr. 27, publishes a statement prepared by Anderson, Clayton and Co., of Houston, Tex., which gives figures received in answer to inquiries to correspondents in sections of Texas and Oklahoma. The result of the survey shows averages of increase between the springs of 1913-14 and the spring of 1921, in retail prices to farmers of factors entering into the cost of the production of cotton. The average percentage of increase shown is 71.85 per cent. The statement says: "Accepting 10 cents per pound as the approximate cost of the production of cotton just prior to the World War, this average percentage of increase would indicate that the cost of production of the growth of 1921 will exceed 17 cents per pound."

Dairy Situation

"The Dairy Situation," is the subject of an editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for April 29, which says, in part: "The milk situation in sections supplying cities with market milk is not as satisfactory as could be desired. There is a wide variation in the prices paid for market milk throughout the United States. Some sections are receiving very good prices considering the decline in other farm products, and in some sections prices are too low. In fact the creamery, when the feeding value of skimmilk is considered, is giving the farmer better returns than is received in many sections for market milk."

Farm Management by Bank

"How a Bank Manages Farm Land," is the title of an article in Orange Judd Farmer for April 23, which tells of the methods employed with success by the First Trust and Savings Bank of Springfield, Ills., in managing 33 farms with a total acreage of over 10,000 acres it holds under trust. The article states that this is possibly the only bank in the country with an agricultural expert giving full time to the details of farm management of farm lands held in trust.

Freight Rates

1. "Our backs are being broken by the burden of excessive freight charges, half of which are paid by the farmer. *** Here is a wonderful opportunity for the transportation department of the U. S. Grain Growers, Inc., to strike quick and hard, and to save the farmers of the United States enough money in one year to have them pay the entire cost of putting the new grain marketing plan into operation." (From editorial in The Prairie Farmer, Apr. 23.)

2. "The railroads are in the ditch - precisely where The Farmer said they would land if they kept on shoving up freight rates. Their traffic has fallen off, just as we said it would. Some of it is going to the boats and the ships; some of it to the auto trucks; some of the products of the farms are lying in warehouses or granaries, blocked from markets by excessive rates. *** We can not escape the hard, outstanding fact that the railroads have got to go through the readjustment mill. The farmer has taken his grist through it. Now labor, business and industry must follow."
(From editorial in The Oregon Farmer, Apr. 21.)

3. The tremendous advance in freight rates has made it unprofitable to ship many commodities to distant markets, is the statement of an editorial in The Michigan Farmer for April 23. It says that Michigan hay does not find a profitable outlet in eastern markets on account of the high transportation charge while Southern fruit and truck crops are restricted as to profitable market area by the same cause, these examples illustrating a very general condition rather than a notable exception.

Marketing of Grain

1. "The plan of the Committee of Seventeen, as adopted at Chicago, is not at once the panacea for all the ills of even the grain farmer. *** The task before the board of directors of the U. S. Grain Growers', Inc., is a tremendous task. They are pitted against the most powerful of the speculative interests. Every influence within the ken of wise men will be brought to bear against them. Tremendous temptations will be placed before them. Obstacles will be laid in their way. *** Utmost stamina and utmost loyalty on the part of both leaders and the privates in the ranks of the agricultural army are essential to the success of this great undertaking."
(From editorial in The Oregon Farmer for Apr. 21.)

2. "Kansas Leads Toward Grain Financing: Local Elevators to Issue Warehouse Receipts," is the title of an article in The Orange Judd Farmer for April 23, which states that Kansas has enacted legislation that lays the foundation for the development of the whole plan by which the producer is given equal opportunity with the speculator in access to financial facilities for handling, holding and marketing the crop in an orderly manner. The article outlines the operation of the act in Kansas.

Marketing the Surplus

"Suppose the Board of Directors of the U. S. Grain Growers Inc., should write an optional clause in the contract whereby each grower would agree to pool his proportionate share of the surplus of each kind of grain each year, the percentage representing the surplus to be determined as early in the season as possible by the board of
(Cont'd on page 4.)

Marketing the Surplus (Cont'd)

directors, such an optional clause, if its purpose were fully explained by the membership solicitors, would be signed by the great majority of farmers." (From editorial on "Handling the Surplus," in The Prairie Farmer for Apr. 23.)

Milk Marketing

An editorial on "Direct Ratio Payment," in Hoard's Dairyman for April 29 states that many Wisconsin condensers have just adopted the "direct ratio" in payment for milk. A certain definite price is fixed per hundred for 3.5 per cent milk and for each point (one-tenth per cent) in test above or below 3.5 per cent there is added or deducted an amount equal to the price per hundred divided by 35.

Milk Substitutes

That filled milk must go was the substance of the testimony given before the committee of the Wisconsin Legislature that has in charge a bill that forbids the manufacture and sale of condensed skimmilk to which a foreign fat has been added. (Hoard's Dairyman, Apr. 29.)

Olive Oil

The Spanish government has authorized the exportation of 20,000 tons of olive oil, according to Commerce Reports, Apr. 25.

Pure-Bred Livestock

"Breeders individually and through their associations should use legitimate means of inducing young men to get into the pure-bred game. This effort can very wisely be extended to boys and girls to the end that an intelligent working knowledge of the fundamental principles of breeding will be had at a time when they are ready to start in the farming business." (From editorial, "Playing the Game Square," in The Michigan Farmer for Apr. 23.)

Sugar Beet Marketing

A marked preference on the part of Michigan's 12,000 sugar beet growers for the contract drawn up and presented by the Sugar Beet Growers' Association over the contract offered by the sugar factories of the state is quite evident, according to a statement on sugar beet contracts in The Michigan Farmer for April 23. An association official states that 100,000 acres were signed up early in April. The association contract is based upon that made by Utah-Idaho Farm Bureau sugar beet growers with their factories. It provides $6.45 a ton for beets when the wholesale price of sugar is $5 a hundredweight.

Wool

A new corporation is seen to be formed to introduce the product of the Sabadell woolen mills in Spain to the American market, according to the N. Y. Daily News Record for April 26. During the war these mills manufactured material on contract from the United States Government.

Wool in Illinois

The Illinois Agricultural Association, which for several months has been sending Illinois pool wools to the mills to be made into blankets, etc., to be sold to the farmers and others, is now investigating the possibility of having suits made from Illinois wool, according to H. W. Mumford, director of the live stock marketing department of the association. The point made by the association is that from 6 to 8 pounds of wool go into the 3 3/8 yards of cloth required for the average suit and the average price received for the 1920 pool is about 26 cents a pound - hence the farmer receives less than 5 per cent of the price of a suit costing $75. (N. Y. Daily News Record, Apr. 25)

Wool Marketing

"Shortening the Marketing Line," is the title of an editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for April 23, which reviews the efforts of some of the farm bureaus in having a portion of their wool stocks manufactured and resold to the farmers. It states that the Montana Farm Bureau Federation has shipped 7 carloads of wool to a mill to be manufavtured into cloth, blankets, etc; Michigan farmers have placed orders for about 2,000 blankets. The Illinois Farm Bureau has been manufacturing blankets; the Iowa Wool Growers Association is completing arrangements to trade their wool for blankets; and Maryland and some of the New England farm bureaus are taking similar action.

Conventions

1. A large delegation from the South has already signified its intention of attending the cotton conference or "consultation" of all branches of the cotton industry to be held in New York May 30 and 31 under the auspices of the American Cotton Association. (N.Y. Commercial Apr. 26.)

2. The national dairy show will be held this year at the Minnesota fair grounds, October 8 - 15. The cattle feature has been so greatly enlarged this year that there is no place in Chicago large enough to hold the exhibition. (Phila. Ledger, Apr. 27.)

Department of Agriculture

1. "Florists Complain of a Federal Bureaucracy," is the title of an extensive editorial in Commercial West for April 23, which states that a committee appointed by various state and other horticultural societies to investigate conditions relating to Quarantine order No. 37, which became effective in June, 1919, has reported that while many special permits have been issued under this quarantine order, the regulations which compel importers located at all ports to send their importations to Washington for examination and fumigation have made it impossible to utilize the permits to any extent.

2. Referring to the discussion as to why farms are being deserted by those born and bred in the country, Helen S. K. Willcox, says in Hoard's Dairyman for April 29, "The blame has been placed first on one cause and then on another, but it was left to the U. S. Department of Agriculture last year to put its finger on one of the best reasons, and hitherto apparently ignored - the fact that eight out of ten farm women are not only deathly sick of their endless hours and arduous labor, but particularly because they are sickest of their unattractive, inconvenient homes, which, even in the enlightened farm-American of today, compare too unfavorably with many modern rented urban flats."

Select List of Books Added to Library

Clapp, J.M. Language for men of affairs. v. 1. Talking business. 1920.

Thatcher, R.W. Chemistry of plant life. 1921.

Tipper, H., Hollingworth, H.L., Hotchkiss, G.B., and Parsons, F.A. Principles of advertising. 1920.

U.S. Dept. of Labor. The economic situation in Czechoslovakia in 1920. By R. J. Caldwell. 1921.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 32. April 29, 1921.

Governor Harding of the Federal Reserve Board announced yesterday that he would begin next week a personal survey of the farm credit situation in the middle west and southwest. The board, the Governor said, had thought it advisable that he make a tour of the farming area to learn at first hand the problems of the country bankers and trade obligations.

The real crux of the farmers' problem, in the view of Mr. Harding, is the foreign situation. The farmers, he said, must have a market for their commodities, as they cannot go on indefinitely on credit without selling their crops. He thought the rediscount rate by the Bank of England might aid American farmers by making possible a more liberal market for grain and cotton, not only in Great Britain but in other European countries.

Inequalities in price readjustment as between the wholesalers and retailers and the transportation situation also were described by Mr. Harding as contributing causes to the present agricultural situation. (Press of Apr. 29.)

Secretary Hoover proposed to the Chamber of Commerce of the United States in annual session yesterday a plan for a broad governmental statistical service as an antidote to wide and rapid fluctuations in commodity markets. He said: "I believe there has been a great underestimation as to the potential importance to commerce and industry in this connection of an adequate service of statistics. *** We should have more timely, more regular and more complete information of the current production and consumption and stocks of every great commodity in the United States."

Creation of a national good-marketing board, under the chairmanship of the Secretary of Agriculture, and with the existing Bureau of Markets as its executive arm, was suggested yesterday by Secretary Hoover as a means of relief to farmers and consumers. A letter to Senator Capper outlined some of the functions of such a board. (Phila. Ledger, Apr. 29.)

The Emergency Tariff bill, designed to relieve the farmers and prevent dumping of foreign goods, was ordered favorably reported yesterday by the Senate Finance Committee. (Press of Apr. 29.)

Calif. Fruit Shippers and Freight Rates

Although the entire cantaloupe crop of California is endangered by the excessive freight rates to the East, according to complaints made April 22 to western members of Congress by cantaloupe growers of the Imperial Valley, Calif., traffic experts state they know no reason why these cantaloupes will not move freely to market under present rates. "It is difficult to see how the railroads could be urged to reduce their rates," Chairman Clark is quoted as saying to Senator Shortridge in a letter which also states that it appears that the railroads are supported in their belief that the present rates will not shut off shipments and that a reduction in rates will not materially increase them.
(Federal Trade Information Service for April 27)

Chilean Exports

The Chilean Department of Agriculture is experimenting in shipments of fruits and vegetables to the United States and expects annual shipments to approximate $10,000,000, according to the Wall Street Journal of yesterday.

Cooperative Marketing

Minnesota's cooperatives and its plan for federation with selling agencies at the big terminals, are described by Hugh J. Hughes in The Country Gentleman for April 30. He states that the total amount of business handled by the local association during the year ending last June was in the neighborhood of $200,000,000. "Now we are taking stock of what we have with which to go forward into the field of terminal marketing, for the farmers of Minnesota are demanding, as their right, a place on the Chamber of Commerce, on the livestock exchanges and on any other terminal market they may care to enter," he says.

Dairymen's League Pooling Plan

The 50,000 signed contracts necessary for the starting of the Dairymen's League pooling plan have been secured, according to announcement from Utica, N.Y., to Journal of Commerce April 28. This assures the putting into operation of the pooling plan May 1.

Dog Laws

Effective state dog laws in various states are outlined in an editorial in American Agriculturist for April 30, which says, in part: "With the swing of the sheep industry back toward the eastern states, enforcement agents can hurry this process by strict enforcement of the law and protection of the sheep."

Edge Law Banks

"In spite of the enormous amount of publicity which has been given to the formation of various organizations under the Edge law, it is probably not yet fully realized how helpful such organizations can be, both by the extension of long-term credits and by the import of foreign securities for resale under the debentures of an American corporation." (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 28, quoting O. K. Davis, at Chamber of Commerce of U. S. Convention at Atlantic City.)

Farm Land Values in Canada

The value of occupied farm lands throughout Canada rose two dollars an acre last year; it averaged $48 an acre at the close of 1920 as compared with $46 in 1919, according to a recent report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (Commercial West, Apr. 23.)

Federal Farm Loan Act

Herbert Quick is the author of an article on the Federal Farm Loan Act, in The Country Gentleman for April 30, in which he explains in detail the operation of the Federal Farm Loan system, stating that both the city and the country will profit by it. Refuting the claim that it is a "special privilege" for the farmers, he says: "The Federal Farm Loan Act is no more a special privilege for farmers than the Federal Reserve Act is a special privilege for merchants. It is a credit system meant to meet the wants of agriculture just as the Federal Reserve Act is meant to meet the needs of people needing short-time credits." He says also: "If the states do not soon give the farmers the kind of longer-time personal credit they need the National Government will have to do that too."

Foreign Trade Financing

1. Payment of $700,000 more of the capital stock subscribed by 1,300 southern banks to the Federal International Banking Company, the Edge bank of the South, has been practically completed, it was announced at New Orleans, April 26. This second payment brings the total capital paid in to $2,450,000, giving the foreign trade bank there an operating range now of $24,500,000.
(N. Y. Daily News Record, Apr. 27.)

2. "Creation of facilities for the extension of long term credits is essential to the solution of the present grave situation in American foreign trade," said John McHugh, Chairman of the organization committee of the Foreign Trade Financing Corporation, at the convention of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States April 27. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 28.)

Freight Rates

"The horrible railroad rates now prevailing are more responsible for the present stagnation of business than any other one thing. *** One reason for the present immense imports of wool is the fact that it costs nearly 30 per cent of the price of wool in the West to carry it to the Atlantic coast, where it is manufactured and distributed. It can be brought from Australia for less money per ton. The same is true of grain. *** Corn can be carried from Argentina to New York for less than half the cost of freight from Chicago, and corn grows well in South America. These excessive rates have paralyzed business except where trucks can be used in competition."
(From editorial in The Rural New Yorker, Apr. 30.)

Grain Exchanges

1. The Capper-Tincher bill for the regulation of grain exchanges was indorsed in principle yesterday by Joseph P. Griffin, President of the Chicago Board of Trade, testifying before the House Agriculture Committee. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 29.)

2. In an editorial under title, "Erroneous Ideas on Grain Speculation," the New York Commercial for April 28 says: "So much pressure is being brought to bear upon Congress to pass the Capper-Tincher bill to abolish speculation in grain that there is a possibility of its going through. *** We have pointed out before that in some future Congress, if not in this one, it will be possible to line up a sufficient majority to put through a bill closing the grain and cotton exchanges. *** There is little doubt that if one Congress abolished the exchanges, the next Congress would be asked to reinstate them."

Japan's Farm Lands

A marked tendency of decline in the value of farm lands in Japan has been noted. This tendency is the natural consequence of the abnormal rise of land value during the war. The present depreciation is more marked in the value of upland farms than in that of paddy fields. At the close of last year the depreciation in the value of paddy fields reached 15.9 per cent, while that in upland fields reached 21.3 per cent. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 28.)

Motor Tractors in Austria

There are approximately 12 factories in Austria engaged in the manufacture of motor tractors, most of them motor-car factories only partially devoted to this branch of industry. The government and the Austrian Agricultural Bureau purchased together, in 1920, 120 tractors, which they loan to farmers. Beyond this the sale of tractors is negligible. Farmers can not afford to own tractors, as the initial price and cost of upkeep are too high.
(Commerce Reports, Apr. 25.)

Nebraska Tractor Legislation

"Nebraska Culls its Tractors," is the title of an article by Philip S. Rose, in The Country Gentleman for April 30, which gives the result of the operation of Nebraska's law providing for the official testing of gas tractors and for the compulsory establishment of service stations by all companies operating within the state. The article states that at the present time Nebraska is using approximately 15,000 tractors, and says: "If the tests have the effect of preventing the sale of inferior machines, the saving may easily amount to many thousands of dollars to the farmers of the state every year."

Parcels Post Marketing

"Shipping Eggs by Parcel Post," is the title of a statement by the postmaster at Hackensack, N.J., in The Rural New Yorker for April 30, which says, in part: "It is my personal opinion that a great opportunity exists for egg producers to deal directly with their patrons in the great centers of population by shipment of eggs to them with the Government C.O.D. tag attached. Frankness compels me to couple with this declaration the statement that there is much room for improvement in the handling of these fragile parcels in the mails. I am convinced that this will come with development of the plan."

Prices in Germany

Statistics showing the comparative wholesale prices of 70 important commodities in Germany in 1920, and inclusive of January 8, 1921, are given in Commerce Reports for April 23. The figures from which a general average was struck, were gathered by the Frankfurter Zeitung from different parts of Germany. The general price tendencies for all of the 70 commodities analyzed rose to their peak by April 1, 1920, declined to the lowest level by July 1, 1920, rose to their peak again by Nov. 1, 1920, and fell to around their ebb level by Jan. 8, 1921.

Pure-Bred Livestock

"Inflated Pure-Breds," is the title of an article by John M. Evvard, in The Country Gentleman for April 30, in which he states that "it would be pleasant to assure breeders of pure-bred hogs that their business is taking the bumpy upgrade of reconstruction on all cylinders, with no serious doubts as to the immediate future. *** But such assurance would fool none of the majority of breeders who keenly realize that certain and sundry things have been and are wrong."
(Cont'd on page 5.)

Pure-Bred Livestock (Cont'd)

Reviewing the history and disasters of pure-bred sales since 1914, and advocating the stocking of farms with utility-type hogs, the author says: "I wish nothing of what I have written to be understood as meaning that all pure-bred hogs must be sold at prices farmers can pay. There are and should be a limited number of high-class constructive breeders, whose market is to fellow breeders, others whose market is to both breeders and farmers. We need every animal of superior merit that is bred."

Rice Situation in America

"The American rice growers are having trouble. A large part of our record crop of 54,000,000 bushels produced in 1920 is still on the farms. The rice farmers have been suddenly dumped headlong from probably a higher pinnacle of prosperity than any other farming group, and when they struck bottom - if they have struck it yet - they found themselves in the deepest and most abysmal depth of all." This is the first paragraph of an article by J. Sidney Cates, in The Country Gentleman for April 30, which reviews the rice situation in this country and explains the cause of the price slump. It states that the fundamental trouble with the American rice industry is that under the stimulus of recent world prices it has expanded until home markets have been far outgrown. In concluding his article, the author says: "If we consumed here twenty pounds per capita, thirteen pounds more than the present yearly average, there would be no rice marketing problem today."

Tariff

1. "While many agricultural products should have adequate protection, we do not desire that a low general tariff be placed on practically all articles," said Harold J. Sconce, agriculturist, yesterday, before annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. "This fact is illustrated by two commodities - wool and hides. The production of hides is not an industry in itself to the extent that the production of wool is an industry, therefore while wool should be protected against foreign importation by placing proper tariff against it, yet hides and skins could be better admitted free as they do not play so important a part in the production of the animal or the ultimate returns to the consumer."
(Phila. Ledger, Apr. 29.)

2. The opinion prevailed at an executive session of the board of directors of the National Council of American Importers and Traders, held in New York, April 27, that the exchange equalization measure in the Emergency Tariff bill would be materially modified or completely eliminated. (Journal of Commerce, Apr. 28.)

Utah Wool Marketing

The marketing committee of the general wool pool of the Utah Wool Growers' Association has agreed with the National Wool Warehouse and Storage Co. of Chicago, whereby the latter will receive, ship, grade and sell all wools received by the committee during 1921.
(N. Y. Daily News Record, Apr. 28.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 33. April 30, 1921.

Far-reaching changes in the American business policy of a high protective tariff were indicated by the results of votes cast on the question at the annual convention of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States yesterday. The preference voiced was for a tariff that would not exclude foreign goods from American markets on the theory that European nations might exclude American goods. (Press of Apr. 30.)

Hearings on bills proposing regulation of future trading on grain exchanges were closed yesterday by the House Agriculture Committee, which voted to begin consideration of the bills at once. Secretary Wallace will be called before a final report is framed. (Press of Apr. 30.)

Establishment of an interstate highway system under a Federal highway commission is proposed in a bill introduced by Senator Townsend yesterday. One hundred million dollars for each of the next two fiscal years would be expended. The various states would be required to contribute an equal amount. (Press of Apr. 30.)

The Interstate Commerce Commission found yesterday that the refusal of the Northern Pacific, the Great Northern, the St. Paul and other carriers to maintain joint rates on lumber on the coast group basis from points on the Washington Western Railroad to interstate destinations, while maintaining such rates on like traffic from points in the states of Washington and Oregon on their own branch lines, were unduly prejudicial and ordered the prejudice removed. (Phila. Ledger, Apr. 30.)

The Frederick County, Va., Fruit Growers' Association intends to protest to the Interstate Commerce Commission against putting into effect a new freight tariff on produce and fruit from Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey points to all points in the Mississippi Valley, including Memphis and New Orleans.
(Wash. Star, Apr. 29.)

British Embargo Removals

The British embargo on the exportation of notes of the Bank of France, caustic potash and articles containing caustic potash, potassium carbonate and articles containing potassium carbonate has been removed, effective April 28. (Commerce Reports , Apr. 28.)

Cooperative Marketing

1. In referring to Senator Capper's bill to authorize the association of agricultural producers in the processing, preparation and marketing of their products, The National Stockman and Farmer for April 30 says: "We believe Senator Capper's bill to be unnecessary because the privileges it grants already exist as an inherent right of American citizens; but it may save some trouble to associated producers by forestalling fool propositions. It is clearly our duty to forestall such prosecutions by proper organization and conduct of our associations."

2. "Organization for Selling," is the title of an article by Alva Agee, in The National Stockman and Farmer for April 30, in which he says: there is much difference in judgment among us regarding some plans that have been projected for collective selling. I do not believe that it is practicable or desirable to obtain absolute control of the price of any commodity through pooling and control of production. Some believe otherwise, and it may require a demonstration to determine which view is right." In this article the author submits a program of potato marketing that he believes to be sane and in the interest of everybody concerned.

Cooperative Schemes

The Georgia Wholesale Grocers' Association is bitter in denunciation of the Federal Trade Commission for its recent report in which "Positive encouragement of cooperative associations of agricultural producers and cooperative consumers' organizations," is advocated, says Modern Miller for April 23, which says, further: "Collective bargaining by farmers is encouraged, to cut out the middleman, and incidentally insure farmers' union prices in the sale to manufacturers. *** Evidently government functioning is taking on new and queer lines."

Cotton

1. "Take care of cotton, for the time is coming when it will be valuable," is the burden of a statement in an editorial in The Wall Street Journal of April 29 on "a long distance view of the cotton situation" taken in a London communication received at Washington. "Without regard to the present condition of huge surplus and low prices, akin to a minor swing in a major movement, that writer looks to the near future when impaired buying power will be restored," the editorial says.

2. Far-sighted representatives of the British cotton trade are already agitating the question of increasing production of cotton within the Empire, according to a report of Commercial Attache Dennis, at London, in The Wall Street Journal for April 29. He states that they see that with a return of the world to a normal state of economy buying will be resumed, idle and short time spindles will be speeded up and an insistent demand for raw material may be anticipated.

Flax

Flax cultivation in Egypt is comprehensively reviewed in Commerce Reports for April 27, which states that the area planted to flax during the year ended Aug. 31, 1920, was for Lower Egypt, 4,225 acres; Middle Egypt, 532 acres; and for Upper Egypt, 1,096 acres, or a total of 5,853 acres. The area in February 1921 under cultivation was estimated at 8,000 acres, of which about 2,000 acres are under continental flax. From the total flax area, it is estimated that the yield will be approximately 1,400 tons, of which 400 tons will be of the continental variety.

Foreign Trade of Canada

An economic review of Canada is given in Commerce Reports for April 27. This shows that Canada's total foreign trade during 1920 showed a considerable increase over that of the previous year. In 1920 the total trade was $2,639,726,135 compared with $2,235,843,9[illegible] in 1919, an increase in total trade of $403,882,150, or 18 per cent. The total trade in 1913 was $1,119,578,417, or $1,520,147,718 less than in 1920, showing an increase of 135 per cent for the latter year as compared with 1913.

Grain Exchanges

"The directors of the Chicago Board of Trade have taken cognizance of the censures of its critics, ignorant and informed, and have concluded to give way in immaterial things," says an editorial on "Board of Trade Reford" in The Price Current-Grain Reporter for April 20 which continues: "The directors might have gone further and catered still further to certain captious critics and condemned personal solicitation of speculative accounts; but if speculation is lawful and desirable as a market function, as it undoubtedly is, why put a commission house on the same hyper-ethical level with the doctor who is made to appear as a quack if he tells anyone that he is competent to be of use to him or his family professionally."

Horseless Corn Growing

Corn growing without the use of horses at any stage from planting to harvesting is an experiment that will be tried by Charles E. Peterson on a five-acre tract west of Columbus, Ind. He thinks that corn can be produced at a much lower cost by the use of power machinery. (Farm Implement News, Apr. 21.)

Jews in Agriculture

That there is a healthy "back to the soil" movement among the Jews, is the declaration of the New York Commercial for April 29, which tells of the activity in this connection of the Jewish Agricultural and Industrial Aid Society of New York. It states that the agricultural movement among the Jews began twenty years ago with a Jewish farming population of about 200 families, now grown to an estimated farm population of 50,000, tilling more than 1,000,000 acres.

Labor

Eighty-five per cent of the employees of Armour and Co. entitled to a vote favored the adoption of the employees' plan of settling all grievances that arise at the south St. Paul plant. (Phila. Ledger, Apr. 30)

Legislation

"The Wisdom of Officialdom," is the title of an editorial in the Price Current-Grain Reporter for April 20 which criticises various of the state laws and the manner of their enforcement, giving specific instances of faulty laws or misapplication of fair laws.

Louisiana Agricultural College

In article entitled "Greater Agricultural College will develop a new Louisiana" the Hon. John M. Parks, Governor of Louisiana, writes as follows: "For the first time in the history of Louisiana, the farmer, who represents the real welfare of Louisiana, is receiving the attention to which he is entitled, and the minds of the whole state are turned to what can be accomplished on the nearly 2,000 acres of splendid land lying two miles south of Baton Rouge. This college will be constructed without costing a dollar to any of our taxpayers, out of the funds derived entirely from the Severance License, and should be the finest agricultural college in the South and one of the finest in the country." (Modern Farming, Apr. 25.)

"Normalcy"

"What is normal?" is the title of a statement issued April 15 by the First Wisconsin National Bank of Milwaukee, which says in part: "It would be a good thing if for a while we could drop out of our vocabulary the word 'normal,' because, as the word is now used in current economic discussion it does'nt mean much. As a result of dating statistical information about prices and wages from 1914 or 1913, there is a tendency to think that a return to the conditions of those years would be normality. True, we have to begin somewhere to reckon the rise of prices and wages, but this does not argue that that somewhere is the goal of our ambitions. The changes of six or seven years cannot so easily be left out of account."

Potash

1. The total production of Alsatian potash during 1920 reached 1,061,197 tons. Of this amount 450,000 were sold in France, 327,000 were exported to the United States, 117,000 tons to Belgium and 92,000 tons to the United Kingdom. (Wall St. Jour, Apr. 29.)

2. Potash for fertilizer and the making of explosives can be made in large quantities from the green sand of the prehistoric seas, according to an announcement made April 28 by R. N. Shreve, in a paper read before the American Chemical Society in session at Rochester, N.Y. Mr. Shreve said that deposits of greensand are found not far from the present coast line along the Atlantic from Massachusetts to New Jersey. (N. Y. Commercial, Apr. 29.)

Power Costs

"Now we are learning that the charge for power constitutes no small part of the total cost of producing farm crops. In a similar manner the realization is growing that the cost of getting those crops from the farm to the local markets is considerable. This hauling problem bears a direct relation to the economic operation of the farm." (From editorial in Farm Implement News, Apr. 21.)

Prices of Implements

In an editorial on implement price reductions, Farm Implement News for April 21 says: "Assuming, as one may, that the average of the reductions is 12 1/2 per cent, and taking the most reliable estimates of the maximum advance in implement prices, we find that present prices on the whole line average about 55 per cent higher than prewar prices."

Rubber

The consumption of rubber has increased considerably during recent years on account of the development of the automobile industry. As a result methodical exploitation of the plantations of the Far East has been undertaken. In the region comprising the Malay Peninsula, Dutch East Indies, Ceylon, and Indo-China, rubber plantations cover over two and a half million acres.
(Bul. des Halles, Apr. 8.)

Tariff on Chicle

The Mexican export duty on chicle has been changed from 15 cents (U. S. Currency) per kilo of 22 pounds to 6 per cent ad valorem. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 27.)

Tariff Protection for Lard

"The time has come when the American hog raiser should make a clean-cut demand of Congress that he be given protection against the importation of vegetable oils, used as substitutes for lard. The man is lacking in vision who has failed to recognize the menace which these oils have for the swine industry, and it would appear that the best interests of a vast majority of our people will be conserved only by the passage of such tariff legislation as will curtail the use of these oils." (Poland China Jour., Apr. 25.)

Wheat

A moderate increase in the area sown with winter wheat as compared with last year, in Belgium, Bulgaria, Spain, France, Finland, Great Britain, Norway, Roumania and North Africa, while in Poland and the United States a slight decrease is indicated, is announced by the Statistical Bulletin for March just issued by the International Institute of Agriculture. The most recent advices from India report the area under wheat as 85 per cent of that of last season, and prospects below an average.

Wool

The recent assertion of the British-Australian Wool Realization Association to the effect that the banks have no authority to combine to support any official price limit, is denied by the Chairman of the associated banks, according to cables from Melbourne to Bradford, Eng., April 27. (Daily News Record, Apr. 28.)

Department of Agriculture

1. "If the farmer admits the indictment of Secretary Wallace that he is 'a very poor salesman,' it augurs ill for the success of the Committee of Seventeen's new marketing plan."
(Western Grain Journal, Apr. 21.)

2. An editorial entitled "Why the Stir?" in the Dairy Record for April 20 says that "Interests apparently close to the centralizers are becoming agitated over the prospective successor to Dr. Alsberg."

Conventions and Exhibitions

1. The annual convention of the American Institute of Meat Packers will be held in Chicago, August 8-10, 1921. (The National Provisioner, Apr. 23.)

2. The National Swine Show will be held at Peoria, Ills., October 3-8, under the auspices of the Peoria National Implement and Vehicle Show. (Poland China Journal, Apr. 25.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 34. May 2, 1921.

Retail prices appear to be the "sticking" point in the country's readjustment process, the Federal Reserve Board said last night in a general review of business and financial conditions for April. Other factors retarding readjustment were said to be high transportation charges, wages and coal and steel prices. Prices, the review stated, have been the pivotal point in the business situation since the recession movement began last autumn. The fall in wholesale prices, which has been continuous and at times precipitate, it declared, appears to be in a process of arrest, they having shown a greater degree of stability during April. Raw cotton, the Board stated, is lower than the 1913 level and wool is about a third higher than before the war, but cotton goods are at least 20 per cent higher than in 1913, and woolen cloth is approximately twice as high as the prewar level. In the hide and leather industry the discrepancy is even greater, the board asserted, the present price of skins being one-third under prewar levels, while the price of shoes is twice as high as in 1913. The agricultural situation was characterized as generally favorable. (Press of May 2.)

"The movement to expedite export of cotton took a long step forward at Atlanta yesterday, in the opinion of more than 100 representative exporters and financiers who discussed the situation with government officials and were promised cooperation by Eugene Meyer, Jr., Managing Director of the War Finance Corporation. Mr. Meyer promised to recommend that credits be extended on bona fide sales of cotton at interior points for export, instead of while it is at ports for export, as at present. A proposal that the Government insure exporters against loss from wars and revolutions in foreign countries will be discussed by a committee in Washington May 9." (Wash. Post, May 1.)

A group session devoted to agriculture in its relation to foreign trade has just been arranged in connection with the eighth annual convention of the National Foreign Trade Council to open at Cleveland May 4. J. R. Howard, President of the American Farm Bureau Federation, will discuss export features of the new grain-marketing plans. Senator Walter E. Edge will address the convention on foreign trade financing corporations. (Phila. Ledger, May 2.)

American Commerce nd Industry

An analysis of the problems of American Commerce and Industry by Secretary Hoover, as presented in his address before the Chamber of Commerce of the United States at its convention in Atlantic City on April 28, is given in Commerce Reports, April 29. Among other salient features of the situation, Mr. Hoover discusses the question of falling prices, the relation between railroad rates and production, the stagnation in the building industry, unemployment, and the combinations of foreign business interests to dominate world markets.

California Fruit and Vegetable Standardization Bill

The California Senate has passed a fruit and vegetable standardization bill which fixes the sugar content of wine and table grapes for shipment in the state. Under the terms of the bill, table grapes could not be sold until they contained 17 per cent sugar, and wine grapes, unless used for processing or preserving purposes would have to contain 16 per cent sugar. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 30.)

California Raisin Trust

"There has long been a feeling in the grocery trade that the 'poor California farmer' is not quite as badly demoralized as he would have it appear, with his acres gone to waste and in desperate need for paternalistic favor to allow him to fix his own prices far beyond those which the normal economic law would dictate. This is particularly true in the case of Fresno raisin growers, whose very existence depended upon permitting the Raisin Trust to control ninety odd per cent of the raisin acreage and make prices on a f.o.b. contract, which gives the buyer as much chance for freedom of action as the fabled 'wax feline in purgatory'." (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 30.)

California Review of Agricultural Conditions

"Another year of exceptionally good crops has paved the way for continued sound business conditions in this largely agricultural district," says the annual report of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. "Yields of all the principal crops compare favorably with the record yield of last year, smaller crops of some of the grains and fruits being offset by larger yields of oats, hay, cotton, sugar beets, potatoes, hops, oranges and lemons. Prices received by the growers have averaged lower than last year, although high prices compensated the fruit-men for short crops of peaches and pears, and the grape-growers received for their product by far the highest prices in the history of the industry. Some depression has been felt in wool, cotton, and rice-producing communities because of the slackened demand for these commodities. The report gives a table showing estimates of production of 15 of the principal crops of the district, a comparison of these yields with those of the total United States and a comparison of the population of the district to the total United States. A graph shows carload shipments of citrus and deciduous fruits for each month in 1920.

Cooperative Marketing

"The farm bureau leaders realize that there is no possibility of eliminating all middlemen. They are only attempting to do away with useless speculation which gives no benefit to producers and enhances the cost to consumers. *** We urge the farmers to be patient until these marketing problems can be worked out. Stick together. Don't knock. Boost. It takes time to change a great marketing system or correct its faults." (From editorial in Successful Farming for May.)

Cost of Production

"Only an exceedingly small percentage of farmers know, even within a rather wide range of approximation, what it costs them to produce the several products upon which they depend for their income. *** A large percentage might rearrange and modify their farm operations in such a way as to increase their profits, or decrease their loss, if they knew the results they were getting from the various branches of their work. *** As a general rule, it is true in the case of any commodity that the individual or company which can produce at lowest cost is surest of profit and realizes greater than the average profit upon the commodity. The rule applies to farming as well as to other lines of industry. Even though the products are pooled and sold direct to consumers, and all producers receive the same price for their products, the profit will still depend upon the cost of production." (From an article entitled "Know Your Production Costs," by A. H. Snyder, in Successful Farming for May.)

Cotton

"Approximately 582,369 bales of cotton are specifically pledged for money advanced. Owners of 61,000 bales reported they were willing to sell for present prices. Owners of 127,538 bales declared their willingness to borrow up to 80 per cent of the market value, while about two-thirds of those replying reported they were not interested in borrowing money on their cotton." (Phila.Ledger,May 2.)

Farming at Factory Centers

Industrial owners of the Atlantic states, particularly those of New England, alive to the necessity of economy programs to meet on equal terms the influx of cheap European production, are going in for agricultural development in the vicinity of factory centers in order to provide food at a minimum cost, according to The Washington Herald of May 2.

Federal Land Banks

Almost $28,000,000 was loaned to farmers during the past two years through the Federal Land Bank of Louisville, according to The Indiana Farmer's Guide for April 30. Over $1,250,000 of this has already been repaid, although these are all long-time loans, made to run about 37 years. In the 48 months of its existence the bank has not had a single delinquent payment in Indiana, and but two or three in all the four states which it serves - Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana.

Foreign Trade

"If the English pound could be put back on a normal basis tomorrow, I am convinced that in six months from that date our export clearances for Britain would increase one-hundred-fold," according to Sidney Smith in an article, "Our Future Export Meat Trade with England," in The Michigan Business Farmer for April 30.

Foreign Trade Financing

1. "The Question of Credit for Europe," is the title of an article by Charles E. Roberts, vice-president of the National City Bank of New York, in the American Review of Reviews for May, in which he reviews the situation in detail outlining the various plans of credit considered. He says, in part: "Securities representing European obligations will be best offered to our people through corporations formed in this country, which will assume the investigation of the foreign offerings, with the performance of whatever acts are necessary to safeguard the investments after they are made, and which will put

(Cont'd on page 4.)

Foreign Trade Financing (Cont'd)

up a reasonable margin of their own capital as an additional guarantee. Such corporations can distribute their risks, on the principle of insurance, their own obligations representing varied investments, as each bond issued by the Federal Farm Loan banks represents mortgages upon many farms. The most important undertaking of this kind, in point of capital contemplated and nation-wide scope, is the one which is in process of formation under the auspices of the American Bankers' Association which has been incorporated under the name of the Foreign Trade Financing Corporation."

2. "The fact that foreign trade calls for longer credits than domestic obscures the fact that foreign trade resembles barter, an exchange of spot goods, more nearly than domestic trade, which is an exchange of goods for currency rather than credit. Nothing hinders our foreign trade more than the demand for documents against goods, not when delivered abroad, sometimes even not alongside the ship or on delivery to the land carrier but even at the factory door. Until we can conquer this provincial and uneconomic method of foreign trade we shall choke the outlets for our surplus, and surrender the profits to those of more courage and better knowledge."
(Editorial in N. Y. Times, May 1.)

Forestry in Ohio

Ohio is one of the states where strong effort is being made for additional legislation for forestry protection. There are three forestry bills now before the Ohio legislature. One bill provides for county, township and municipal forests, another for state nurseries to provide young trees and a third provides for appointment of fire wardens. (N. Y. Times, May 1.)

Freight Rates

"Despite the claims of the railroads, it is a fact that freight rates are having a tendency to prevent business from getting back to normal. The high rates are keeping up the prices on many products to consumers, and as long as these rates are exorbitant they will prove to be a drag upon industry. The manager of a concern that is doing an international business points out in a letter some of the inconsistencies of the freight situation. He says: 'It is a good deal farther from Hamburg to South Bend by the way of New Orleans than it is by the way of Baltimore, yet the freight rate was always less by the way of New Orleans. This at one time got so bad that our buyers in Winnipeg had all their goods come by way of New Orleans, because it carried very much cheaper freight rates than the shoot straight across to the St. Lawrence river and then across to Winnipeg. The key to the situation is in the varying railroad rates, because the ocean rates are not so materially different to the different ports'." (From an editorial in The Indiana Farmer's Guide for Apr. 30.)

Immigration into Argentina

1. Immigrants into Argentina for the month of November, 1920 numbered 19,620 persons, of whom 7,592 were Spaniards, 6,225 Italians, and 1,023 Germans. During the first six months of 1920 a total of 52,245 immigrants are reported as compared with 69,879 during the entire year 1919.
(Commerce Reports, Apr. 29.)

Immigration into Argentina

2. Regarding German immigration into Argentina, the Buenos Aires Standard for March 24, in an article entitled "Dear Buenos Aires", says, in part: "The German Department of Emigration has looked into Buenos Aires as a field for German emigrants and found it the most costly field in the world. In Buenos Aires a sack of coal costs six times more than an identical sack in Berlin. In regard to clothing, the citizen of Buenos Aires pays for a suit more or less what the citizen of Berlin pays for two suits of the same quality. In point of fact everything is dearer in the capital of neutral Argentina than in Germany beaten after a most costly and destructive war. It is rather a pity the department did not carry its investigations a little farther forward. Coals and garments, potatoes, rice and meats do not make up the fundamentals of life. To really understand the cost of living in Argentina as compared with Germany we should be told what the citizens and residents of these countries have to pay for government on democratic lines. The German citizen has, we feel certain, a greater advantage over his Argentine contemporary in this particular than he enjoys in the detail of a sack of coal."

Interstate Commerce Commission

The Interstate Commerce Commission has decided to hold conferences at Yakima, Wash., and Boise, Idaho, on fruit and vegetable rates. These conferences will be in addition to those previously announced for Los Angeles, San Francisco and Denver. (Press of May 2)

Maple Sugar

Franklin County, Vermont, maple sugar producers are finding it impossible to market their commodity at more than 60 to 75 cents a gallon in barrel lots. The Weldon National Bank is offering financial assistance to the farmers in carrying their syrup until a suitable market can be found. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 30.)

Potash

There were 33,280,205 pounds of carbonate of potash valued at $1,218,851, imported into the United States during the calender year 1920, according to Commerce Reports for April 29, which gives a table showing countries of origin.

Tariff

"The New Tariff Plan," is the title of an editorial in The Journal of Commerce for April 30, which says, in part: "While recognizing the superiority in technique of the measure now offered by the Senate Finance Committee, there should be no failure to recognize its effect as an immense heightening of the tariff. The bill is essentially based upon a simple idea - that of imposing duties on valuations which are corrected to allow for changes in foreign currency and also to recognize the possibility of erroneous or fictitious valuations established for the purpose of invading the American market. The various expedients adopted for carrying out these plans and for operating the new machinery constitute the elements which are worthy of study and criticism."

Wool

That the British Australian Wool Realization Association is gravely concerned as to future wool values owing to many growers, including London and Australian banks, refusing to fall in with the association's schemes, is reported by Melbourne cables to Bradford. (Phila. Ledger, May 2.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Vol. 1, no. 35. May 3, 1921.

Adoption of the policy of making advances to American exporters of cotton or those financing such exporters, where the cotton is under contract for sale abroad, was announced last night by the War Finance Corporation. Heretofore the corporation has confined its advances to cotton already on seaboard. The new policy was adopted at the request of the recent conference of southern bankers and cotton exporters at Atlanta. Another result of the conference was the formation of a joint committee of bankers and exporters to work out practical methods of dealing with cotton exports, especially to those countries that could use substantially larger quantities if credit were obtainable on a sound basis. (Press of May 3.)

Expansion of the Department of Commerce to embrace all the non-regulatory government bureaus relating directly to industry, trade and transportation, as distinguished from agriculture, was recommended by the conference of industrial and business leaders which met here last week at the request of Secretary Hoover to consider reorganization of the department. In a letter to the Secretary made public yesterday the conferees declared that all statistical activities of the government relating to production, stocks, consumption and distribution, and movement on the basic commodities, at least, excluding agriculture, should be concentrated in the Department of Commerce. (Press of May 3.)

An amendment to the Edge Export Finance law, offered by Senator Edge, was passed yesterday by the Senate and sent to the House. Under the amendment, after 25 per cent of the capital of an Edge Export Finance Corporation has been paid in, and providing this amounts to $2,000,000 or more, the remainder of the capital may be paid in on call by the directors instead of in installments every two months. The consent of the Federal Reserve Board will be necessary in all such cases. (Phila. Ledger, May 3.)

The Tincher bill to regulate futures grain exchanges was unanimously ordered favorably reported last night by the House Agriculture committee. As agreed upon, it has been strengthened by amendments suggested by Secretary Wallace, under whose direction it would be administered. (Wash. Post, May 3.)

Agricultural Census

"As a matter of fact, we have no data of any value concerning the population or the economics of farm communities. The smallest unit, so far as our census returns go, is the township or the incorporated village, which the Federal government declares all communities of less than 2500 inhabitants to be rural - a classification that may well excite either pity or contempt for those responsible. The only unit that can be of real value to the student of country life is the school district. There are many small industrial villages of a few hundred people which, in make-up and interest, are affiliated with the farm about as closely as a gilded country club is related to the Dorcas Society." (From an article by Jared Van Wagenen, Jr., entitled "A Farmer on his own Business" in The Atlantic Monthly for May)

California Raisin Crop

The 1920 raisin crop amounted to 175,000 tons, and production is three times what it was ten years ago, according to an announcement yesterday of the California Associated Raisin Co., which also states that since the new organization was formed three years ago there has never been a hold-over. (Phila. Ledger, May 3.)

Cooperative Fruit Marketing

"In view of what our leading organizations of fruit producers have done in intrusting their business to men who have brought to naught the opposition of merchants and financiers and have already increased consumption far beyond a point which private trading could ever have attained, there is no longer any question that experienced experts in organizing and promoting trade, hired by producers, can go much farther in developing profitable business. *** The achievements which we cite are demonstration beyond impeachment that the groups of directors or trustees who supervise and direct the operations and policies of our selling cooperations are in no way inferior to the directorates of urban financial, commercial and manufacturing corporations." (Pacific Rural Press, Apr. 23.)

Cooperative Motor Transport

"When Cooperation Goes on Wheels," is the title of an article by Frank A. Meckel, in The Oklahoma Farmer for April 25, in which he points out how motor trucks owned and operated by cooperative companies aid materially in lessening the cost of transporting farm commodities. He states that the cooperative system of hauling has been proved very satisfactory in localities where farming systems and good roads are such that truck hauling can be carried on throughout the year. In the most successful cooperative truck routes the membership is not restricted to farmers, but city merchants are permitted to hold stock, thus permitting the truck to carry a load on every trip.

Cotton

"There is something worth considering in the failure of a large cotton milling establishment in Saxony. When the underlying causes for the failure are known they show the wrong direction of some of our attempts to revive the cotton industry. *** Assets of this firm were greater than liabilities. The trouble was that it had an accumulation of manufactured goods that it could not sell. This is the key to the whole cotton situation at home and abroad. In the last analysis the business of a cotton mill rests upon the spending power of individuals who not only wear shirts but mend them.
(Cont'd on page 3.)

Cotton (Cont'd)

American mills are financially able to buy all the cotton they need, yet in the past eight months of the season they have consumed but 71 per cent of what they used the year before. This is because American people are not buying freely. What then must it be in other parts of the world where people are even stinting on normal amounts of food." (Wall St. Jour., May 2.)

Farm Implement Prices

"While no manufacturer is obtaining anything like normal value, the trade thus far booked has gone to manufacturers whose policy is to obtain the best possible dealer representation and to protect their dealer agents both as to commissions and territory. There seems to be no doubt that the dealers are handling a larger proportion of the total volume of current business in the entire farm equipment line than ever before, and this is especially true of the heavy lines." (From editorial in Farm Implement News, Apr. 28.)

Forest Fire Prevention in Michigan

In deciding to erect a chain of steel watch towers between Marquette and Keweenaw Counties as a protective measure against forest fires, the state is adopting what ought to prove a practical and valuable device worth employment in many other parts of Michigan, according to Detroit Free Press quotation in Philadelphia Ledger, May 3.

Farm Product Exports

"Will We Continue to Export Farm Products?" is the title of an article by E. Davenport, dean of the Illinois College of Agriculture and director of experiment station, in Farm and Fireside for May, in which he expresses at length an opinion as to the soundness of the statement of President Howard of the American Farm Bureau Federation that there is "little hope that we shall produce in coming years large agricultural surpluses except possibly in cotton and pork; in fact, with present ratios of increase, ten years more will find us on a basis of home consumption for practically all our products." After discussing the various factors which affect agriculture, the author says: "Considered in the light of all these facts, it is an open question whether food production will increase or decrease in this country during the next ten years. *** Clearly, and to recapitulate, the amount of food that will be produced upon American lands ten years hence will depend upon two factors: First, the number of men and women remaining upon the farms; and, second, the intensity with which they can afford to work the land."

Freight Rates

1. "The big thing in the freight rate situation as it affects wheat prices is the rate on flour shipped to the great consuming centers around New York and Philadelphia. *** It is important that unfair freight rates to the Gulf ports be fought until they are corrected, because that is one outlet for part of our wheat. *** When the corporation commission strips for action in this freight rate fight, it should review the whole field and seek to widen the opportunity for Oklahoma wheat and its products to reach all markets on a fair basis." (The Oklahoma Farmer for Apr. 23.)

2. "Food Production Stifled by Railroad Rates," is the title of an article by W. S. Killingsworth, in Pacific Rural Press for April 23, which gives concrete examples of actual "stifling of profits" by (Cont'd on page 4)

Freight Rates (Cont'd)

2. freight and refrigerator charges. Details are given on lettuce shipments from the Imperial Valley to Chicago. The article says: "Imperial Valley lettuce is not the only sufferer. *** Early shipments of rhubarb, one of the profitable vegetable commodities grown to perfection in certain sections of the state, have been 'scrapped' other than for very early shipments, on account of the high rate of freight."

3. "Not a little irritation has been produced of late in railroad circles by evidences of propaganda on the part of wholesale and retail distributors of farm produce in the large cities for the purpose of convincing the farmers in various sections that the ruinously low prices they have recently been receiving for their produce are primarily due to excessive freight rates. *** Representatives of the railroads have been stirred by the activities in this direction of commission men and retail dealers in farm produce to institute inquiries as to the actual prices the farmers are receiving and the ultimate consumers are paying for such produce, with a view to determining what part railroad freight rates really play in the startling difference known to exist between the two sets of prices," says an editorial in The Economic World for April 30, which quotes some results from this inquiry as given in the Railway Age for April 22. The latter refers especially to propaganda spread among the producers of vegetables in Texas, Florida and other southern states, and also in California. Citing the case of Texas cabbage, it states that on April 16 the average price paid to the producer was $7 per ton. The cost of transporting it to Chicago was $26.30 per ton. The total amount that the producer received for producing it and the railroad received for hauling it about 1,300 miles, was 1.67 cents a pound, or $33.30 a ton. On the same date in Chicago cabbage retailed at 7 cents a pound, or $140 a ton, i.e., $106.70 per ton more than the total amount that the producer received for producing it, and that the railroad received for bringing it to Chicago.

Grain

Almost without exception, country grain dealers have had a very unsatisfactory and unprofitable year, according to the report of the Price Current Grain-Reporter for April 27 on the 21st annual meeting of the Western Grain Dealers' Association held recently at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. It states that at the time they had grain to move, and the farmers were willing to sell, the railroads tied them by failure to deliver cars for moving the grain. Later on prices began to fall and farmers refused to sell or to fulfill their contracts for sale.

Power Farming Investigations

"We believe that the possibilities and results of power farming should be investigated in a thorough manner, but such work should be carefully planned and intelligently executed. *** Any investigation work presupposes a certain fitness on the part of the investigators and a thoroughness in collecting, compiling and digesting data which commands respect. The application of power to farm operations is a big job, and there are many ramifications. We are still waiting for an investigation which will go to the fundamentals of this problem." (From editorial in Farm Implement News, Apr.28.)

Prices

The London Economist estimates, on the basis of its monthly index number, that if average prices in England at the time of the armistice are taken at 100, the high point of 1920 would average 184, and that the average at the end of March would be 82. (N. Y. Times, May 2.)

Russian Grain Crop

There has been much sowing of grain in all the Russian provinces, and an optimistic picture of a heavy grain yield is painted, according to a Moscow message reported in the New York Times for May 1.

Tariff

"As for help for the farmers, it is doubtful whether a temporary emergency tariff on food would really help them, for its effects would spread to nearly all the agriculturist must buy, and what he might gain on the one side he might lose on the other, while the general effect upon the cost of living could not avoid being disastrous. That there is a burden on the farmer through high transportation costs is undeniable, but there would be no relief possible through such propositions as that of Senator Capper to repeal the present requirements that rates shall be equal to secure a minimum return to the railroads as a whole." (From editorial in Commercial and Financial Chronicle, Apr. 30.)

Tariff on Wheat

"Reducing Canadian Competition," is the title of an editorial in Farm, Stock and Home for May 1, which asks, "Will a tariff on Canadian wheat do all we expect and hope for the American farmers? In the occasional years when our wheat may be off in quality and Canada has a crop of high quality will not our farmers get a better price for their low grade by reason of being able to get the better Canadian? *** Is not there another step possible, in addition to a protective tariff, that will reduce competition abroad between kernels of wheat and make it between sacks of flour? In other words, cause more of our wheat to leave this country as flour, thereby retaining the mill feeds here."

Wool

The consumption of colonial and foreign wool in the United Kingdom in 1913, as estimated in London, was 344,190,000 pounds. Production of English wool in the same year was 125,122,000 pounds, of which 28,662,000 pounds were exported, the balance of 96,460,000 being available for domestic consumption. According to an estimate of the Yorkshire Observer, Great Britain's wool consumption in 1914 was 298,292,000 pounds; in 1915, 843,114,000 pounds (this increase being due to military requirements); in 1916 at 542,937,000 pounds; in 1917 at 649,504,000 pounds; in 1918 at 425,948,000 pounds; and in 1919 at 864,296,000 pounds. In the 12 months of 1920, after deducting re-exports from imports, there remained 654,576,000 pounds of foreign and colonial wool for consumption. With respect to probable consumption in 1921, the prospects of the woolen manufacturing trade in general are reported to be bad. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 29.)

Department of Agriculture

In announcing the organization of the California Date Growers Cooperative Association, California Cultivator for April 23 says: "A special effort will be made to get the Federal Department of Agriculture to carry out and publish information as to important research work." The article states that the members are all in either the Imperial or Coachella Valleys. For the present the association will confine itself to serving as a clearing house of information and the promotion of cooperation between the date growers and the various state and federal agencies concerned.

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ol. 1, no. 36. May 4, 1921.

The draft of the permanent tariff bill containing the valuation system was approved yesterday by Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, as being practically the only method in which to meet foreign competition. In his testimony before the House Ways and Means Committee, Secretary Hoover said he believed in both a broad protective tariff and the levying of import duties on the American valuation basis. (N. Y. Times, May 4.)

The Senate Agriculture Committee yesterday made a favorable report on the resolution of Senator Robinson, of Arkansas, providing for an investigation by the committee into the condition of rice growers of the United States. (Press of May 4.)

Secretary Wallace submitted yesterday, through the Secretary of the Treasury, a suggestion to the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the enactment of legislation which would make fees received from grazing on public lands prior to December 1 considered part of the receipts for the fiscal year 1921. (Press of May 4.)

Twenty million acres of arid lands in the West could be reclaimed under the McNary bill to develop homesteading projects through Federal aid, E. F. Blaine, of Seattle, chairman of the Western States Reclamation Association, testified yesterday before the Senate Irrigation Committee. The bill would provide a fund of $250,000,000 from which interest-bearing loans would be made to reclamation associations. Former service men would be given preference in the acquisition of the reclaimed lands. The 20,000,000 acres, Mr. Blaine informed the committee, would be reclaimed at an average expense of $100 an acre and divided into 400,000 farms of 50 acres each. (Press of May 4.)

Beaver Farming in Canada.

Beaver farming has been inaugurated in Alberta, according to Commercial West for April 30, which states that it promises to become popular among the small farmers of the province.

Beef Production and Consumption

Beef production and consumption statistics are given by James E. Poole, in The Shorthorn World for April 25. The article states that if beef consumption per capita in the United States was the same as in 1907, cattle scarcity would be in the acute stage. In that year every man, woman and child in the country was credited with 79.7 pounds of beef; last year this was down to 56.4 pounds. Present indications are that a million head less cattle will go to the shambles in 1921 than last year. Already the 20 principal markets show a decrease of approximately 600,000 and liquidation has been in full swing since January. The author says: "The problem is not one of increased production but stimulation of consumption. This doubtless could most effectively be accomplished by placing cattle prices and charges to consumers over the retailer's counter on better speaking terms."

Butter Legislation

An opinion by the Attorney General with regard to the taxability of butter made from cream neutralized with chemicals, holding that the internal revenue taxes on adulterated butter should be imposed, has been again postponed to June 1, upon representations from western creameries. (Chamber of Commerce of U. S. statement, Apr. 29.)

Cheese Prices.

For the first time in six years cheese was being bought in Northern New York markets May 3 for 14 cents a pound. Dealers report that there is no market even at that price. Yesterday's priceequals the minimum price paid since the organization of the local produce exchange, nearly twenty years ago. (Watertown, N. Y., dispatch to N. Y. Times, May 4.)

Commercial Canning.

There is produced annually more than 5,000,000,000 cans and jars of human food. These are packed in 4,000 canneries whose capital investment aggregates nearly $1,000,000,000, whose annual output is worth $500,000,000, and where there are employed 500,000 workers, according to a report of the National Canners Association, quoted in an editorial on commercial canning in Orange Judd Farmer for April 30. The editorial says: "As a market stabilizer the canning industry performs a valuable function in that it turns perishable products into non-perishable form, in which form they can be fed to the consumer as he wants them."

Farm Machinery Output

Farm machinery plants are reported to be averaging about 50 per cent of normal at present output rate, according to Standard Daily Trade Service for May 3.

Foreign Bank Rates Reduced

The Stockholm Riksbank April 27 reduced the discount rate from 7 1/2 to 7 per cent.

The bank rate of the Bank of England, which has stood at 7 per cent for the year, was reduced to 6 1/2 percent on April 28. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 30.)

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Foreign Trade Insurance

"Why not reestablish the War Risk Insurance Bureau as a foreign trade political trade risk bureau?" is the question asked by Richard Spillane in the Philadelphia Public Ledger for May 4. He believes that the political risk in dealing with foreign governments could be guarded against with much less cost to the insured than was that of the war marine risk during the war. He says: "If such were done, it is suggested that the Government and the American merchant divide the risk, say, 70 per cent by the Government and 30 per cent by the merchant. *** European governments recognize both the political and commercial risk and have discussed it."

Fraudulent "Doc Nolan"

The recent exposure in Western Ohio of "Doc Nolan" and his fraudulent remedy for hog diseases, "Noxine," is described in the Prairie Farmer for April 30, which also recounts the operations of this fake medicine vendor during the past seven years, and the efforts made by farmers, farm organizations and federal agents to bring technical evidence against the man and stop his dishonest practice.

Freight Rates

At the request of Secretary Wallace, the transportation department of the American Farm Bureau Federation has prepared a statement showing the history of rates on wheat and live stock and their products from Jan. 1, 1914 to date. It is pointed out by Federation officials that when this statement is contrasted with the recent fall in the prices of agricultural commodities, the burden of present transportation rates becomes very striking. Rate increases per 100 pounds are given in Weekly News Letter, Am. Farm Bureau Federation, April 28.

Grain Exchanges

Charges of over-speculation and price depression made against grain exchanges by farmers' organizers were disproved in a report covering an investigation of several months and submitted by a committee of inquiry to President Joseph P. Griffin in the Chicago Board of Trade. Analysis of the report, according to experts, shows that it answers frankly but in terms that cannot be mistaken every question stressed by opponents of the exchange. Sharp exception is taken to charges that speculation caused price slumps in grain during the last nine months.
*** Likewise the report defends short selling and points out that the short seller must eventually become a buyer to cover his sales. (The Financial Age, Apr. 30.)

Grain Marketing

The eight sales zones into which the country has been divided for the cooperative marketing of crops by the United States Grain Growers, Inc., are outlined in Commercial West for April 30. J. M. Anderson, chairman of the sales department, states that the corporation expects to begin handling grain first in southern territory and probably will be in action by May 15. The corporation already has contracts for 25,000,000 bushels of grain in the Pacific Northwest and an office will be opened in that territory about July 1. (Commercial West, Apr. 30.)

Horse Situation

In an article on "The Horse Situation Today", by J. O. Singmaster, in the Breeder's Gazette for April 28, the author says: "Judging from the depression of the '90's I am sure that I know what will happen. Farmers will continue buying mares as rapidly as possible while light money conditions keep down values. Then, so soon as our country gets down on a normal basis financially, there will be the greatest demand for good stallions that we have ever seen. Stallion breeders must have good horses to head their breeding. They will bid up for the better stallions when the prices of these better stallions are rising."

Immigration to Canada

There has been a steady flow of homeseekers to Canada in the last few years from Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Iceland and Canadian immigration agents abroad predict that Scandinavians from these countries will form a large part of the influx of the future. (New York Commercial, May 3.)

Labor

A general tendency toward a reduction in wages throughout the country, combined with a tendency on the part of labor in the East to resist the cut and a general feeling that the worst period of the unemployment has been reached, are the outstanding indications contained in reports to the Associated Press on the industrial situation from almost every state in the Union. A decided back to the farm movement is also noted in the reports and as a rule there is no lack of farm help in any section. (Jour. of Commerce, May 2.)

Marketing

One-half of what the consumer pays for necessities goes to support the marketing system through which those goods pass, was the statement of Dr. Paul H. Nystrom, director of the Retail Research Association at the Commercial Museum at Philadelphia yesterday. Probably a quarter if not a third of probable costs of marketing represent a preventable loss, he said, and the introduction of economics and improvements into the present systems of distribution would be a better way of remedying the situation than trying to establish entirely new methods and channels of marketing. He suggested improving the transportation system to include better storage and shipping facilities, organization of a marketing information bureau, wiser salesmanship and advertising, and the elimination of delivery duplications. (Phila. Ledger, May 4.)

Milk Marketing in New York

Distributors and manufacturers of milk in New York are contracting to purchase milk for May under the Dairyman's League plan for collective marketing which was put into effect May 2. The farmers' price for fluid milk to be sold in May by the Dairyman's League Cooperative Association, Inc., sales agent for over 50,000 league members who have signed the cooperative contract, will be $2.30 per 100 pounds (3 per cent milk) at the 200-210 mile freight zone. Under the new marketing plan there will be one price for fluid milk and another price for surplus milk to be utilized in manufactured products. (Jour. of Commerce May 3.)

Packing Plants Closed — The Portland Packing Co., announced yesterday that it had notified corn planters in North Anson and Oakland, Maine, that its factories in those towns would not be operated this year because of a great carry-over of surplus corn and poor market conditions. (Phila. Ledger, May 3.)

Purebred Livestock — "Conducting a Purebred Sire Crusade," is the title of an article in The Breeder's Gazette for April 28, which tells how the fight against scrubs was organized in Virginia on the advice of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and why that state leads in the nation-wide campaign to encourage the use of better breeding stock.

Tariff

1. The New York Fruit Exchange has gone on record as being unanimously against a high tariff rate on certain classes of merchandise handled by its members, on the ground that such tariffs are against the best interests of both the Government and the consumer. (N. Y. Commercial, May 3.)

2. "The controvery over the tariff in this long drawn form of course reveals onoemore the utter hollowness of the 'emergency' character of the measure and shows that the leaders made a consummate blunder in dividing the tariff into two sections. They now find that they cannot pass the first measure without extensive postponements and that the second may or may not be adopted according to schedule, but with the chances much against it." (From editorial in Jour. of Commerce, May 3.)

Department of Agriculture — "Among some of the officials of the Department of Agriculture the conviction still persists that it is a part of the farm bureau's function to buy cooperatively for its members. In a recent bulletin sent out the Department commends the efforts of the county agent at Umatilla County, Oregon, for his enterprise in organizing 111 farmers in a pool to buy 22 cars of distillate for tractor and truck fuel. *** No fair-minded man would quarrel with the county agent's way of meeting the emergency on the ground of 'trade ethics'. The Department of Agriculture, however, seizes the occasion to infer that such cooperative movements are always desirable and words the bulletin so as to encourage every county agent to go and do likewise, with respect to fuel oil or anything else." (Implement and Tractor Trade Journal, Apr. 30.)

Select list of books added to Library

Brown, H. G. Two essays on the taxation of unearned incomes. 1921.
Gartner, K. K. Commentaries on the Interstate commerce act. 1921.
U. S. Dept. of agriculture. Bureau of public roads. Report of a study of the California highway system, by the U. S. Bureau of public roads to the California highway commission and highway engineer. [1921]

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 37. May 5, 1923.

The House yesterday passed and sent to the Senate a bill permitting farmers to combine in cooperative associations to market agricultural products without suffering restriction of existing antitrust laws. (Press of May 5.)

The predominating note sounded at the opening session at Cleveland, May 4, of the eighth annual convention of the National Foreign Trade Council was the adoption of an active policy of cooperation between bankers, manufacturers and merchants to maintain world supremacy for the United States in foreign trade. Organization of financial resources to supply long-time credits to foreign countries, doing away with burdening taxation of American investments abroad, and the adoption of an elastic tariff policy were cited as important steps in accomplishing this object. (Assoc. Press, May 5.)

Governor Harding of the Federal Reserve Board, in his address on "Frozen Credits - What They are and How to Thaw Them," at the National Foreign Trade Council convention May 4, said: "There is now no danger of any general financial trouble in this country. We are on a much safer basis than we were a year ago. Frozen credits can best be thawed out by a movement, a stimulation of business, which will do the thawing out automatically." (Assoc. Press, May 5.)

Julius H. Barnes, speaking at the National Foreign Trade Council, May 4, on the value to the agricultural exporter of long time credits, expressed disappointment at the total amount subscribed from bankers, manufacturers and exporters to the stock of the Foreign Trade Financing Corporation. (Assoc. Press, May 5.)

Milo D. Campbell, President of the National Milk Producers' Federation, called upon 200 dairymen in convention at Chicago May 4 to "Organize for a finish fight on the issue of a united, cooperative sales association." (Phila. Ledger, May 5.)

Advertising Farm Products

"The hour is striking when the farmers must advertise their business. They must cease to be content with consoling themselves. They must carry their message to the people in the cities and make the public an ally instead of an opponent. *** Heretofore the speculator and the unnecessary middleman have been standing between producer and consumer, playing the one against the other. It is time that the two ends of this triumvirate should focus their attention on the middle instead of on each other." (From editorial in The Oregon Farmer, Apr. 28.)

Bread at Prewar Cost

A grocery company operating a chain of stores in the eastern section of the United States has announced a cut in the price of bread to 6 cents for a one-pound loaf. The reduction brings the cost of bread to a point actually below what it was before food costs began to rise. (Standard Daily Trade Service, May 3.)

Cheese

"Is Our Foreign-Cheese Area Limited?" Under this title a writer in Wisconsin Farmer, April 23, states that while the constituents of the soil and of pasture grasses are of vital importance in the production of the best grades of foreign cheese, the main consideration is the human element, and that competent cheesemakers who receive milk from herds handled and fed in an improved manner can make foreign types of cheese in areas much larger than at present. "The only ties that are restricting our progress," he adds, "like those of the foreign-cheese boundary exist only in our imagination."

Cooperative Butter Marketing

Any cooperative marketing system, any pooling system, that disregards butter quality and forces the well-managed cooperative creamery turning out good butter to equalize its returns with those of the poorly managed cooperative creamery turning out low-grade butter is bound to be disastrous, according to an editorial in The Dairy Record for April 27. It says, further: "In the general movement for cooperative marketing of farm products, let the cooperative creameries beware lest they get caught in systems and leaderships which place control and monopoly, as well as destruction of the terrible middleman, higher than quality and service."

Cotton

1. Stocks of cotton and linters in the world of which there is statistical record aggregated approximately 18,300,000 bales on February 28 of this year, according to statistics compiled by A. H. Garside, of the Merchants' National Bank, Boston, and published in the Journal of Commerce for May 4. The stocks this year exceeded those on the corresponding date in 1914 by about 36 per cent and those in 1913 by about 30 per cent.

2. "The only salvation I see for the farmer and the State or South is in the State and Farmers' Cooperative Mill," says H. L. Hollenbeck, in an article entitled, "When Cotton Farmers Clip Coupons," in Farm and Ranch for April 30. He says, further: "We are no nearer the harbor now than fifty years ago nor will any system of marketing the raw cotton prove of material benefit for two reasons, namely, the uncertain size of a crop and the avarice of the manufacturer."

Cotton

3. Reports furnished by nearly 1,800 special correspondents of the Journal of Commerce under an average date of April 27 indicate an estimated decline in acreage of no less than 28.2 per cent, as agains an increase last year of 2.3 per cent. This year's acreage figures of 71.8 per cent compare with 102.3 per cent a year ago, 104 per cent in 1918, 97.5 per cent in 1917 and 106.9 per cent in 1916. Declines are shown in all states. (From a preliminary investigation into cotton conditions for the season of 1921 conducted by the Journal of Commerce, and reported in issue for May 4.)

4. The stock of cotton goods in bonded warehouses in Egypt at the end of March amounted to 13,426 packages, against 2,641 packages at the end of March a year ago. (Jour. of Commerce, May 4.)

Dutch Tariff

The new Dutch import duties pending since last summer will come into effect in their definite form by May 15, while the export duties on rubber, copra, cinchona bark, quinine, cocoanut oil and pepper will become in force by July 18 next, according to Jour. of Commerce, May 4.

Freight Rates

An increase of 25 per cent in the freight rates of European ships coming to Vera Cruz, the rates to go into immediate effect, is announced in Commerce Reports, May 2.

Fruit Juice Fakes

Referring to California's fake fruit drink bill, Samuel Adams, the editor, says in an article entitled "Let's Down the Fruit Juice Fakes," in American Fruit Grower for May: "The same bill should be offered in every state legislature. *** There are not nearly enough fruit juice factories or canneries equipped for the purpose to handle more than a small share of the possible trade than can be developed. But these will come when pure fruit juices do not have to meet the competition of synthetic products that are called by fruit names."

Immigration

"There is no place for immigrants on the farm. If there is no more room in the cities, then it is high time that the doors be closed and foreigners barred for such a period of time as will permit an adjustment of industrial affairs in America."
(From editorial in Farm and Ranch, Apr. 30.)

Montana Legislation

Resolutions adopted at the recent convention of the Montana Stockgrowers Association, at Helena, urged enactment of a tariff on live stock and livestock products; protested the increase in livestock commission charges and demanded that the former rates be restored; opposed game preserves; indorsed pure fabric legislation; demanded that hay fed to livestock in transit comply with state grades, at prevailing prices and actual weights; commended the ninth district Federal Reserve bank for its policy in extending credits to the livestock industry; requested graduated reduction in the value of ranch lands and improvements for taxes; indorsed legislation to create proper Government supervision of the handling of all meat and by-products; urged relief from the proposed grazing fees in national forests, pending normal conditions; urged petitioning the Interstate Commerce Commission for reduction of prevailing transportation charges on live stock; favored improvement of the St. Lawrence river to the Great Lakes. (Commercial West, Apr. 30.)

Ocean Freight Rates

In spite of the depression in ocean shipping and the keen competition for cargo, rates in most cases show a tendency to advance, the reason being that shipowners can no longer operate their vessels on the basis that has recently prevailed. (Export Trade and Exporters' Review, Apr. 23.)

Olive Crop of Mediterranean

The Mediterranean olive crop for 1920-21, according to a Marseille oil merchant, totals 907,000 metric tons. (Commerce Reports May 2.)

Olive Oil Free

The Italian government has removed all restrictions on the exportation of olive oils. (Commerce Reports, May 2.)

Pasture Lands in Guatemala

Attracted by the splendid pasture lands of Guatemale, the Inter-American Agricultural and Cattle Company is negotiating for the purchase of 22,000 acres near the Cordoba section of the International Railroad, close to Porto Barrios. The company intends to ship cattle and frozen meat to the United States. (N.E. Times-Picayune, May 2.)

Portugal Agriculture

A decree of August 17, 1920, authorized the Government to adopt, beginning January 31, 1921, certain methods to alleviate the present economic crisis in Portugal. One of these methods is to grant production premiums to farmers and the other to grant subsidies to laborers, syndicates, cooperative societies and to companies and enterprises engaged in motor culture, to aid them in obtaining agricultural machines with greater facility.
(Boletin de Agricultura Tecnica y Economica, Spain, March 31, 1921.

Power Machine Farming

"Scientific Farming and Power Machines Greatest Aids to Farmers," is the title of an article in Commercial West for April 30, which records the methods of operation and results of a North Dakota farmer who successfully uses only the best in power equipment and employs the scientific marketing mechanism now available. "He uses no horses, but motor cars, trucks and tractors constitute his automotive power," the article says. "With only one helper, except in harvest time, he has farmed a thousand acres out in the Missouri slope country in North Dakota."

Prices

"How long prices in general will continue to decline and what low levels will be reached remain as uncertain as at the beginning of the reaction early in 1920. It is worthy of note, however, that the rate of decline in the last two months was less than the average decline in the last months of 1920. This is possibly an indication that on the whole prices are nearing the low point that will be reached in the present period of readjustment. There is no inherent necessity for regarding one or another previous price level as the norm to be reached again. Doubtless, the belief that prewar prices represent a standard to which postwar prices must inevitably gravitate has unduly restricted current demand for one or another commodity."
(The Guaranty Survey, Apr. 25.)

Tariff

1. "Although the Emergency Tariff bill is urged on behalf of the farmers of the country, it is doubtful if the placing of a temporary embargo against imports at this time will remedy the conditions complained of. Measures of this character can only produce results
(Cont'd on page 5.)

Tariff (Cont'd)

1. which, in the end, will prove uneconomic and unsound and will not reach the fundamental cause of the present unfortunate plight in which the farmer is now placed in respect of his unsold products. Actual relief for the present condition can come only through the creation of new markets and outlets for the produce of the farmer and not in artificially increasing the price of goods entering into domestic consumption. This result can best be accomplished by opening up our foreign markets to take over our surplus supplies." (The Guaranty Survey, Apr. 25.)

2. "In view of the fact that the American timber supply is being depleted more than five times faster than new timber grows and that the virgin forest area of the country has been reduced from 822,000,000 to 137,000,000 acres, would it not be intelligent conservation of one of our most important natural resources to encourage the importation of lumber instead of erecting a tariff wall against it?" (From editorial in Farm and Ranch, Apr. 30.)

Trade Relations

"We are so far ahead of the trade balance game that the machinery of exchange is blocked. It can be set going only by a liberal import policy. This country is under the least physical compulsion of any to buy the world's goods, except for the purpose of helping trade and enabling debtors to pay us their balances. America is so nearly self-contained that she could exist with a fair degree of comfort if all the foreign trade gates were closed. *** The true mechanics of business consists in producing goods where and how they can be produced the cheapest, and then exchanging them for other goods that can be produced cheaper than we can produce them. *** The United States should adjust its economic thinking to buying liberally of the world's goods."
(From editorial in Chic. Jour. of Commerce, May 4.)

Wool

1. "The wool situation is the worst in the country's history, the state of Wyoming alone has disposed of half a million sheep since the Department of Agriculture estimated the American total January 1 at 45,067,000," according to J. B. Wilson, Secretary of the Wyoming Wool Growers Association. "Nearly three-fourths of the 1920 clip is unsold and the 1921 clip is under way with no prospect. The Ohio Sheep and Wool Growers Association is a shining exception, having successfully handled all the 1920 wool turned over to it."
(Wall St. Jour., May 4.)

2. The fourth series of colonial wool auctions opened May 3 in London with total offerings of 40,000 bales in behalf of the British-Australian Wool Realization Association, and 27,000 bales privately owned wool. (Jour. of Commerce, May 4.)

Department of Agriculture

"It is to be regretted that the Dairy Division of the Department of Agriculture is working under conditions that do not in the long run offer a man with the experience of B. H. Rawl, its former chief, inducements for lifelong service. *** It is not a good thing for the Department of Agriculture, nor for the dairy industry of the country." (The Dairy Record, Apr. 27.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

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Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 38. May 6, 1921.

Secretary Wallace yesterday told the House Agriculture committee, holding hearings on proposed regulatory legislation, that Federal regulation of the meat packing industry would be very desirable to aid the live stock industry at the present time. (Press of May 6.)

Foreign trade cannot be one-sided, trading means importing as well as exporting in balanced measure, delegates to the National Foreign Trade Council's eighth annual convention were told at yesterday's session at Cleveland. The realization of this important economic theory, extension of governmental service to America's export and import business, education of Americans to the needs of world-wide business - these, scarcely less than the development of a long-time credit system, are essential to a prosperous and permanent trade, yesterday's speakers said. (Phila. Ledger, May 6.)

Suspicion, hesitancy and a passive attitude toward subscribing for the stock of the Foreign Trade Financing Corporation, the $100,000,000 organization formed to give long-time credits in foreign trade, are holding up millions of dollars' worth of export trade which would open factories and find work for many thousands now unemployed, William C. Redfield, former Secretary of Commerce, yesterday told delegates to the National Foreign Trade Council at Cleveland. (N. Y. Times, May 6.)

A warning against "hasty legislative measures designed to relieve abnormal conditions in trade and industry" was sounded yesterday in the report of the Warburg Economic Commission to the Executive Council of the American Bankers' Association in convention at Pinehurst, N. C.; John S. Drum, president of the Association, told the Council that the problem of American business was "to create credit machinery to make possible the absorption of our excess of manufactured goods and raw materials in foreign markets." (Press of May 6.)

The War Finance Corporation is now ready to help to finance fruit and vegetable exports from California, according to an announcement made yesterday by Eugene Meyer, Jr., Director.

Agriculture's Economic Status

In the "composite opinion of the leaders in the economic life of the United States," a compilation of replies of more than a thousand business men and bankers received in response to a questionnaire sent out by the American Bankers' Association, and presented to the executive council of that organization at its conference at Pinehurst, N. C., May 4, the agricultural situation is summarized in the answers to three questions relating to (a) relinquishment of land by farmers because present prices of products make it impossible to return interest on the investment; (b) is ample credit available for the needs of farmers? (c) Is sentiment in favor of or opposed to agricultural cooperative movements?

Briefly summarized, the answers report that (a) in some western and central states in which farm land values were inflated farmers are unable to earn the interest on their investment, and in some cases have been unable to meet principal payments; most farming districts were not affected by land speculations; (b) Reports indicate that in most sections sufficient credit is available for actual needs of agriculture; (c) majority sentiment is in favor of agricultural movements designed to foster cooperative marketing and purchasing, but opposed to cooperative movements designed to create monopolies, enter politics, form alliances for political purposes with other groups. (Journal of Commerce, May 5, gives in full the questions and answers.)

American Farm Bureau Federation

"It is not too much to say that the American Farm Bureau Federation failed at the last session of Congress. In the country at large the federation made excellent progress in organization work and in launching marketing investigations, but at Washington it secured practically nothing in the way of legislation, and the last session closed with the federation under fire and its stock much below par in Congress and with the general public." (From article, "The Farm Bureau's Mistake; Successful Elsewhere, its Work at Washington Sadly Missed Fire," by J. Clyde Marquis , in The Country Gentleman for May 7.)

Banks and the Farmer

"Banks and Profiteering," is the title of an extensive article by E. Davenport in The Country Gentleman for May 7, in which he states that "As the farmer sees it, his bank has failed him in the day of his sorest need. There seems to have been plenty of credit for everybody but the farmer, or, to put it bluntly, plenty of credit for all kinds of speculation but not enough for the legitimate needs of legitimate and necessary production. As the banker sees it, the farmer has asked an unreasonable and impossible service that in the end would be good neither for farming nor for banking. *** Each seems to question the other's method." The two outstanding points in the writer's mind are: "First, the need of closer relations between the country banker and the farmer; second, the need of credit facilities that are better adapted to agricultural needs."

Cherry Growers Organize

Organization of the California Cherry Growers' Association was completed recently at a meeting held at Sebastopol, Calif. The new association will be a non-profit organization, which will assist its members in marketing their fruit and conducting an advertising campaign. (N. Y. Commercial, May 6.)

Colombia Banana Duty

A bill of date April 27 has been passed by the Assembly of the Department of Magdalena, Colombia, levying an import tax of 1 centavo per bunch on bananas, to be increased to 2 centavos per bunch at the expiration of 60 days. (Commerce Reports, May 4.)

Cotton Exchange at Shanghai

The new Chinese cotton exchange at Shanghai was formally opened early in March. The exchange, which is purely Chinese deals with raw cotton alone and is capitalized at $400,000. It is further stated by the Chinese press that another exchange, to be known as the Shanghai Cotton Yarn and Piece Goods Exchange, is also to be opened shortly. (Commerce Reports, May 2.)

Cotton Marketing

Unanimous indorsement of the plan to form a pool of 400,000 bales of cotton a year, for five years, in South Carolina, the cotton to be sold through the South Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association, was given at the meeting of the South Carolina division of the American Cotton Association at Columbia, S. C., May 4. (N. Y. Daily News Record, May 5.)

Cotton Trading

Trading in cotton on New York and New Orleans cotton exchanges was approved by the members of the Mississippi Valley Association at New Orleans, May 4. A resolution passed calls upon Congress to desist from passing legislation which would interfere with the trading as now carried on. (N. Y. Daily News Record, May 5.)

Dairying in Friesland

"Dairy Prosperity in Friesland," is the title of an article in Hoard's Dairyman for May 6, by E. T. Leavitt, who describes this province of Holland in which dairying has been developed to the highest degree. The article states that with an area a little less than Rhode Island, the milk from its 200,000 cows produce for export an amount equal to nearly one-third of the whole milk cheese and much more than one-third of the creamery butter made in Wisconsin.

Freight Rates

Rates on gin-compress cotton from Arizona to Pennsylvania and New England were declared unreasonable by Interstate Commerce Commission yesterday. (Phila. Ledger, May 6.)

Labor

1. Despite the prevalent belief that unemployment throughout the United States had lessened, the U. S. Employment Service, in a survey just completed, found that conditions at the close of April were slightly worse than a month before. (Press of May 6.)

2. About 1,000 livestock handlers employed by the Union Stock Yards Transit Company, Chicago, who went on strike last week because their wages had been reduced 9 cents an hour, May 5 decided to return to work at midnight and accept the wage cut subject to arbitration before Federal Judge Alschuler. (N. Y. Times, May 6.)

Lenin's Agricultural Policy

In an article on "Lenin's Retreat," the Manchester Guardian for April 18 says: "In the first place, what does the change actually amount to? In this year instead of 432 million, 250 million poods of corn are to be requisitioned from the agricultural population; 423 million was the nominal requisition for last year. *** The real change consists in two things: (1) the requisition is to be made by (Cont'd on page 4.)

Lenin's Agricultural Policy (Cont'd)

means of a percentage tax, and (2) once that tax has been paid the peasant will be free to trade with whatever amount he may have left over. This on the one hand recognizes private proprietorship and on the other puts an end to internal smuggling by the simple process of making legal transactions which were formerly carried out in spite of a whole army of preventive officers."

Milk Marketing

"New England's Milk Marketing," is the title of an article in Hoard's Dairyman for May 6, which outlines the development of the New England Milk Producers' Association since its organization in 1916. It states that a consideration given much emphasis in establishing a price for milk is the data of the N. E. M. P. A. on the cost of production.

Norway Prices

From the outbreak of the war until March 1919 prices in Norway had increased about 158 per cent; till March 1920, 188 per cent; till June 1920, 202 per cent; and to September 1920, about 235 per cent, according to a report just published by the Norwegian Statistical Bureau. From March 1919 to March 1920 the increase was 12 per cent; to June, 17 per cent; and to September, 30 per cent. (N. Y. Times, May 4.)

State Reorganization

The reorganization of the New York State Department of Farms and Markets was sanctioned at Albany May 3 when Governor Miller signed the Ferris bill providing for the abolition of the offices of commissioner of agriculture and commissioner of foods and markets and establishing in their place the offices of commissioner and deputy commissioner of agriculture. (Jour. of Commerce, May 5.)

Tariff

"We have one objection to the Emergency Tariff bill because it does not provide a sufficient tariff on vegetable oils. Last year vegetable oils replaced about 7,000,000 pounds of fat in condensed milk and 200,000,000 pounds were used in the making of oleomargarine. It is unfair to ask the dairy farmers of this country to compete with the cocoanut cow of the South Sea Islands." (From an editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for May 6.)

Tuberculosis Elimination

Hoard's Dairyman for May 6 cites Hinds County, Mississippi, the second county in the United States to complete a county-wide test in a campaign to eliminate tuberculosis from its herds, as a convincing argument in favor of eliminating tuberculosis from areas as large as counties. It states also that tuberculosis among cattle in Kansas will be fought in Sedgwick County with a county-wide campaign which began on May 1.

Tuberculosis Legislation

The legislature of Washington has recently enacted legislation providing that all cattle over one year of age must be tested for tuberculosis and receive a certificate of health at least six months before being exhibited at fairs in the state. (Hoard's Dairyman, May 6.)

Wheat in Canada

Seeding reports from representative centers in Alberta, as compiled toward the end of April, indicate that a substantial acreage will be sown in wheat under the most favorable conditions - the best in fact, since 1915. (Jour. of Commerce, May 5.)

Wool

1. "Never Again in Wool," is the title of an article in The Country Gentleman for May 7, by George Frederic Stratton, who concludes: "So the dawn of a better day is opening. Western sheepmen are fully alive to the fact that there is something more to the wool industry than herding sheep on range and humbly taking whatever is handed them for the wool. From the chaotic turmoil of cutthroat selling by Basques, Italians, Mexicans and Americans is coming the businesslike and dignified cooperation which has placed our Australian cousins so far in the lead in handling wool at all stages."

2. That there is a mountain of surplus Australian wool trembling on the edge of a precipice which threatens to fall and crush the industry was the statement made by the Prime Minister of Australia in the federal parliament on May 2. The wool market had declined so much, he said, that wool tops which ten months ago were selling for 14 shillings were now bringing 4 shillings. (Jour. of Commerce, May 4.)

3. It is hardly possible to even approximate the amount of this season's New Zealand wool clip, because practically all of it is being held by the farmers in the hope of obtaining higher prices, according to a report from Auckland, published in the New York Daily News Record, May 4.)

4. The Bradford, England, district exports to America during April included: wool, mohair, wool noils and wastes, wool tops, yarns, mohair yarns, worsted cloths, woolens, mohair cloths, and dress goods, to a total value of 1,054,791 pounds. (N.Y. Daily News Record, May 5)

Select List of Books Added to Library

Adams, R. L., and Beaford, W.W. Marvel of irrigation. A record of a quarter century in the Turlock and Modesto districts, California. 1921.

American academy of political and social science. The international trade situation. 1921. (Its Annals. v. 94, no. 183)
Contents. - pt. 1. International trade since the armistice. -
pt. 2. The present outlook for American foreign trade
pt. 3. Organization for international trade. -
pt. 4. National policies in foreign trade relations.

Amos, P. A. Processes of flour manufacture. 2d ed. 1920.

Arnou, Ch. Les industries de la conservation des fruits. Conservation par le sucre; propriété des sucres. Confitures. - Fruits confit. - Pâtes de fruits. Sirops. 1919.

---------- Les industries de la conservation des fruits. Les fruits, composition et caractères principaux; conservation à l'état frais; conservation par le chaleur; conservation par dessiccation; conservation par le froid. 1920.

---------- Les industries de la conservation des fruits. Fruits á noyaux; abricots, péches, prunes, poires, coings. 1919.

---------- Les industries de la conservation des fruits. Fruit rouges; groseilles cassis, fraises, cerises, bigarreaux, framboises, mures, airelles-myrtilles. 1919.

Australia - Bureau of census and statistics. Official year book of the commonwealth of Australia. v. 13; 1920.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 39. May 7, 1921.

Resolutions adopted at the final session of the annual meeting of the executive council of the American Bankers Association at Pinehurst, N. C., May 6, proposed Federal regulation of investment securities, approved the budget system for Government finances and suggested the need of bringing into early operation financing machinery for the extension of long-time credit to restore foreign trade. (Press of May 7.)

That slightly more than $25,000,000 of the proposed $100,000,000 capital has been subscribed before the campaign has really started was announced by Fred I. Kent, of the Bankers' Trust Co., of New York, in a conference last night of the Foreign Trade Financing Corporation, at the National Foreign Trade convention at Cleveland. The date of commencing operations will be set for a period when European conditions begin to clear up, Mr. Kent said. (Phila. Ledger, May 7.)

Meat-packing concerns in the United States, though opposed to the Norris-McLaughlin bill for Federal regulation of the industry now before Congress, are willing to accept supervision of their industry by the Department of Agriculture, Thomas E. Wilson, president of the Institute of American Meat Packers, testified yesterday before a House committee. He suggested modifications and methods of redrafting the bill under consideration, chiefly to designate the Secretary of Agriculture as the authorized agent of the Government in controlling the industry. (Phila Ledger, May 7.)

Fluctuations in the livestock market are largely due to the unscientific and inefficient system employed by producers in marketing their products, and the real trouble at the base of the question is not so much a packer's problem as it is a producer's problem, Thomas E. Wilson, president of the Institute of American Meat Packers, told the House Agriculture committee yesterday. (Press of May 7.)

Senator Fernald, of Maine, proposed in the Senate yesterday the erection in Washington of a memorial to the employees of the Department of Agriculture who died in the war with Germany. (Press of May 7.)

Agriculture in Missouri District

Demand for merchandise from agricultural sections has stimulated wholesale trade in St. Louis district and jobbing shows a healthier tone. The cause of the invigoration is the activity manifested in the principal farming regions. While the high freight rates have in many places and instances caused the loss or destruction of considerable quantities of various crops, farmers located on or near the inland waterways have found it advantageous to overcome or counteract this difficulty by shipping their products by boat to the leading markets. (St. Louis dispatch to Washington Star, May 6.)

Agricultural Inquiry

"Action on the part of the House Rules Committee in agreeing to resolutions providing for an agricultural inquiry seems likely to result in such an investigation to be made by a committee of the lower chamber of Congress. The purpose is to secure a report on prices, conditions of production, credit resources and transportation opportunities. ... It is to be hoped that Congress is not planning to plunge more deeply into the investigation business. It is costly and disturbing to commerce and the results are seldom commensurate with the sacrifice involved. There is no real difficulty in finding out all that needs to be known about agricultural conditions." (From editorial in Jour. of Commerce, May 6.)

California Birds

"Economic Status of California Birds," by J. W. Tyler, in California Cultivator for April 30, tells of conditions adverse to birds of economic value which exist in the San Joaquin Valley due to its rapid settlement and the expansion of its fruit crops. The author says: "It is little satisfaction to reflect that much of the constantly increasing expense of insect control might have been spared had the native insectivorous birds been protected and encouraged to make their homes in our orchards and vineyards."

Condensed Milk Legislation

Opposition to the practice of giving an unlimited guarantee against declines in prices was expressed by representatives of the Borden Condensed Milk Company in testifying before the Federal Trade Commission yesterday. The argument was brought out when the Borden Company and other milk condensing companies intervened in the formal complaint of the Commission against the Helvetia Milk Condensing Company. The contention of the companies was that without any guarantee against price declines they will not carry sufficient stocks to meet trade demands. (Jour. of Commerce, May 6.)

Cooperative Marketing

In commenting upon the removal of obstacles in the way of cooperative marketing by the bill introduced by Representative Volstead and passed by the House, the New York Commercial for May 6 says editorially: "At first sight this bill may be classed as one giving class privileges to farmers towards which there has been a considerable tendency on purely political grounds. This, however, is something quite different. In trade corporations there is no limit to the size to which the corporation may expand, and it is the history of such cases that up to a certain point, at least, economy of operation is possible. Such combinations have resulted in benefit to the consumer. Farmers have had no such privilege and have had to operate as individual units. The prosperity of the farmer is of the utmost necessity to the country at large. The nation's prosperity rests upon agriculture."

Cotton

"After a thorough investigation we have concluded that the reduction in acreage in the Eastern belt will be 27 per cent, in the Western belt 25 per cent. The reduction in the use of fertilizer is 49 per cent on an average, as compared with last season. From the above reports it will be noted that the propaganda resorted to by the American Cotton Association for a reduction in cotton acreage, and the use of fertilizers has been quite successful." (From Crop Letter of Weil Bros., Montgomery, Ala., of date May 2.)

Dairying in Wisconsin

"Wisconsin Creameries set Example in Marketing," is the title of an article by Berry H. Akers in the St. Paul Farmer for April 30, which tells of the organization of 19 creameries of Polk and neighboring counties in Wisconsin forming Unit No. 1 of the Wisconsin Cooperative Creamery Association. The article says: "The success of the experiment in Polk and neighboring counties has set other creamery sections to thinking. Who can predict where such a sensible business proposition as this will end?"

Farm Census

The total number of farms in the United States early last year was 6,449,242 of which 3,924,851 were operated by owners, 68,512 by managers and 2,455,879 by tenants, according to the preliminary announcement, subject to correction, of the fourteenth agricultural census. (Jour. of Commerce, May 6.)

Memorial Trees

Indorsement of the movement for planting memorial trees along the important public highways as a tribute to the Americans sacrificed in the World War was given by President Harding yesterday in a letter to Joseph M. Patterson, of Chicago. (Press of May 7.)

Profit in Cut-Over Lands

Profitable use of cut-over lands by the Crossett Lumber Co. of Crossett, Ark., is fully described in Manufacturers Record for May 2, by H. H. Cottrell of the Arkansas Profitable Farming Bureau. He states that the company owns 250,000 acres of timber land, has been sawing for 19 years, and it will take 11 years longer to cut over for the first time the entire tract. Cattle and hog raising and the growing of vegetables on a broad scale by up-to-date methods contribute to the success of the farming operation.

Prune Growers Organizations

Chambers of commerce, generally, in prune growing districts have put themselves on record in favor of encouraging all growers joining the California Prune and Apricot Growers, Inc. (California Cultivator, Apr. 30.)

Research

"The Conduction of Research," is the title of an article by F.H. Norton, in The Scientific Monthly for May. Dividing research into two classes, the first pure research, which includes the study of the properties of natural objects; the second, industrial research, the author outlines practical methods for conducting both classes.

Standardized Machinery

"What a fine thing it would be if the parts of different makes of the same implement or machine could be used interchangeably. ... Standardized farm machinery would be a long step toward more efficient and more economical farming." (Nebraska Farm Journal, May 1.)

Student Labor on Farms

"Edwin C. Voorhies, Secretary of the College of Agriculture, is looking for a job for a few score of men and women from that institution, the job to last through the summer's vacation," says an editorial in California Cultivator for April 30. It states further that farmers, as a rule, have not taken kindly to student help, and accounting for this quotes from a letter from Mr. Voorhies, who says that the work that these men have done during the past has been most satisfactory to practically all of the farmers who have engaged their services, "but, unfortunately, "he says," they have been confused with boys going out for a lark and youngsters of immature years."

Tractors in Western Canada

It is estimated that the number of tractors in operation in Western Canada in 1920 was at least 33,000. A recent survey, based upon actual statistics supplied by manufacturers and distributors, shows sales for the past four years in the Prairie Provinces as: In 1917, 5,000; in 1918, 7,500; in 1919, 9,000; in 1920, 10,250. (Commerce Reports, May 4.)

Trade Relations

Accredited representatives of 19 foreign governments, attending the third annual convention of the Mississippi Valley Association at New Orleans, May 2, expressed their desire to trade with producers of the Mississippi Valley and to become more intimately acquainted with exporters from the Valley section. (Memphis Commercial Appeal, May 3.)

Wool

The British Australian Wool Realization Association, known in the wool trade as BAWRA, is encountering difficulties in its efforts to stabilize the price of the great stocks accumulated during the war. In the face of a known abundance of wool buyers refuse to pay the reserve prices fixed by the Association, and they seem to be able to get enough wool not under its control to supply their needs. The wool is not going into consumption as it should and probably would at open market prices, and the presence of such vast stocks is proving a greater weight on the market than their gradual sale at auction would likely be. The sooner the British wools are sold at some price and put on the way to be worn out the better it will be for all interests concerned. (National Stockman and Farmer, May 7.)

Department of Agriculture

1. In an editorial on "Marketing Frauds," The Wall Street Journal for May 3 says: "Making the measure small and the shekel light is not a new practice. But as our marketing system has grown more complex this fraud has measurably increased the cost of living, which is, in all it implies, our most important domestic problem. The Department of Agriculture points to a partial remedy to reduce marketing costs of fruits and vegetables by the elimination of frauds in measuring. ... There are hundreds of different types of containers used where but few are needed in marketing fruits and vegetables. ... The serious lack of uniformity of containers also increases the cost of marketing, because of the greater expense in manufacturing a large number of unnecessary styles and sizes. ... The Bureau is giving us the facts. The public, in its own defense, should demand the abolition of all unnecessary styles and sizes of market containers and measures, and the establishment of a few standard sizes to give the consumer the thing he buys."

Department of Agriculture

2. "Our Voluntary Waste Tax," is the title of an editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 5 which says in part: "Congress and the Secretary of the Treasury are struggling with the question of taxation to meet national expenditures of about $5,000,000,000. How? Food costs the people of this country more than $18,000,000,000 a year, nearly all of which passes through a costly and inefficient marketing process. Contrast the two expenditures and see if a good marketing system does not mean as much to the national welfare as the entire sum of taxation. To say how much of this cost of food is dead loss to the consumers would be difficult. But it must closely approach the huge expenditure which now worries Congress. Lack of standardization, waste from bad packing, and inefficient distribution methods are the main causes. ... In one year the loss on live stock shipped to Chicago amounted to $1,000,000, that being the value of the animals that died on the way from improper loading. These losses are paid in the price of every bit of meat on your table. In two winter months the loss on apples shipped from just one region was $3,000,000. Stem rot causes an enormous loss in melons, and the Bureau of Plant Industry shows it can be prevented by a simple operation. We pay for $50,000,000 worth of wasted eggs improperly shipped, and untold millions on other food products. ... These figures of market loss are not fiction. Every one of them has been furnished by the United States Bureau of Markets as the result of investigations."

3. "We hear that in some states the county agents will be expected to take an active part in putting into effect the cooperative grain marketing plan adopted at Chicago. We hope this report is incorrect, for such a course would endanger the present system of agricultural extension work and the appropriations therefor. The question of the county agent's status has never been determined as it should be, on a national and uniform basis. ... There is danger in the present arrangement whether we realize it or not."
(From editorial in The National Stockman and Farmer, May 7.)

4. Speaking of the charts showing the distribution of Government expenditures which were recently prepared by D. E. B. Rosa, Secretary Wilson of the California agricultural legislative committee, says: "As against this two-thirds of one per cent for agriculture ... the question which naturally arises is, 'Why is such a small sum devoted to the development of our great basic industry?' One answer is that the farmers themselves have been very little interested in what was expended by the Federal Government for agriculture. Over $1,000,000 is spent in California by the Federal Department of Agriculture each year. ... Some excellent work is being done in California by Federal employees but we know entirely too little about it."
(California Cultivator, Apr. 30.)

5. The Scientific American for May 7 calls attention, under the title "The Battle for Health," to an animated "fort" model designed by K. E. Parks, Dairy Engineer of the Dairy Division, for exhibition at the national dairy show at Chicago.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. 1, no. 40. May 9, 1921.

Favorable report was ordered on the Norris-McLaughlin Packer Regulation bill May 7 by the Senate Agriculture committee. Opponents of the legislation in its original form were successful in obtaining elimination of the proposed Federal live stock commission, the committee bill providing instead for a Federal live stock commissioner under the Department of Agriculture to be appointed by the President and paid an annual salary of $7,500.

At the same time the House Agriculture committee, considering the same measure, voted to place jurisdiction over the packing industry under the Department of Agriculture, as was urged May 6 by Thomas A. Wilson, president of the Institute of American Meat Packers. (N. Y. Times, May 8.)

Further consideration of the Emergency Tariff bill May 7 by the Senate was marked by the introduction of two additional amendments. Senator Ashurst of Arkansas proposed that the duty of 7 cents a pound on long staple cotton be increased to 20 cents, while Senator Jones of New Mexico moved for a tariff of 15 per cent ad valorem on all importations of hides. (Press of May 8.)

In issuing a warning in the Senate May 7 to railroads that unless traffic charges were put on a "live and let live" basis a return to Government operation if not ownership was inevitable, Senator Capper read resolutions and letters from farmers and livestock organizations in all parts of the country to prove the correctness of his diagnosis of the existing situation. (N. Y. Times, May 8.)

Distribution of the $40,000,000 raised by the Farm Loan Board through its recent bond issue for the purpose of making loans to farmers has begun, Commissioner Lobdell said May 7. Land banks resumed the making of loans to farmers on May 2, he said, and while full reports of the transactions have not been received, it is the board's intention to spread the $40,000,000 among as many farmers as possible. (Press of May 8.)

Between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000 pounds of wool will be sold by the War Department at public auction to be held at Boston about May 20, Secretary Weeks announced May 7.

Beef Production

"Where do we Stand in Beef Production," is the title of an article in Farm and Home for May by Stephen W. Doty, who gives a "squint over the hindsights and foresights of production and prices, which shows an optimistic point of view." He says in part: "With one-fourth of 1921 behind us, beef production appears to be still declining as cattle slaughter at the four markets thus far is 10 to 15 per cent less than in the same period of 1920. The estimated production for 1921 allows for a 10 per cent decline under 1920. ... Average prices during 1921 can only be estimated but there appears to be a good chance that they will hold above the $9 level most of the time." A chart gives profile of beef cattle production and prices.

California Cooperative Fruit Enterprise

Detailed plans for financing the Oregon-Washington Canning and Preserving Company, the $10,000,000 corporation recently formed for the expansion of the fruit and berry growing and canning industries of the two states, are given in The Journal of Commerce for May 7. The general management and policy of the company will be in the hands of 16 directors.

Ceylon Cocoanut Products

Recent criticisms of the Ceylon desiccated cocoanut industry's sanitary condition by an American manufacturer have been indignantly denied by the Times of Ceylon, which terms them "part of a scheme to raise the tariff wall high enough to exclude the Ceylon product from the United States." (Jour. of Commerce, May 7.)

Class Legislation in Vermont

An editorial in The Rural New Yorker for May 7 calls attention to the fact that all over the Eastern states there seems to be an organized effort on the part of certain city interests to belittle and attack farmers and farm interests. It cites as perhaps the most remarkable case one coming from Vermont, in which the editor of the Rutland Herald in a recent speech "warned the members that unless the larger towns in Vermont look out, and take steps to fight the influence, the farmer representation in the state legislature will be virtually confiscating the property of the town dwellers." He pointed out as an example the $250,000 appropriation for eradication of bovine tuberculosis in the state. The measure was solely class legislation, he said, furnishing funds directly for the farmer, with absolutely no direct benefit for those engaged in other occupations.

Cooperative Movement in France

During the last year the cooperative movement in the devastated regions of France has made considerable progress, the greater part of reconstruction work being executed by such societies at this time. Since the beginning of 1919, 208 cooperative societies have organized in the Department of the Meurthe-et-Moselle. In 1920 the cooperative societies commenced the building of 621 farm buildings, or 88 per cent of the total in the Department. (Commerce Reports, May 6.)

Cotton in Mexico

Cotton growing is increasing in popularity throughout Mexico. In the Matamoras district of Tamaulipas the area under cotton this year will be very much larger than that of last year. In the states of Vera Cruz, Oaxaca, and along the Pacific coast, cotton growing is also increasing in popularity. The Mexican government is lending every effort to the fostering of this industry. (Commercial Mexico, May 7.)

Cotton in Rhodesia

One thousand one hundred acres have been planted with cotton in southern Rhodesia for experimental purposes, according to New York Commercial, May 7.

Dairy Cooperation in California

Associated Dairymen of California have undertaken to market their own products and thus eliminate the middleman, according to the Philadelphia Public Ledger of today. "It is another step in a long march toward cooperation being taken by the members of all industries."

Financial Relief for Farmers

"There never has been in this country such wide-reaching effort for understanding and relief of the financial needs of farming as the farmers put forth in their own behalf during the last eight months," says an editorial in Pacific Rural Press for April 30, referring to the recommendation of Governor Harding of the Federal Reserve Board for legislation directing the Secretary of the Treasury to turn over $100,000,000 of the profits of the Federal Reserve Bank to Federal land banks, to be loaned by the latter institutions on stock cattle for the purpose of assisting cattle producers. The editorial states that the greater significance of this recommendation is the recognition of the fact that if the people are to be fed the farmer must be as fully and fairly helped to produce food as other people are to trade in it.

Freight Rates

1. Senator Capper, before the Senate, May 7, read letters from farmers showing that cottonseed cake used to feed cattle can be shipped from Texas to Rotterdam cheaper than it can be shipped from Texas to Kansas. To ship a bushel of wheat from Buenos Aires to New York costs 12 cents; while to ship a bushel from Minneapolis to New York costs 38 cents. A bale of cotton can be shipped from Galveston to Germany for 35 cents a 100 pounds, while to ship the same cotton 300 miles by rail in this country means a freight charge of 95 cents a 100 pounds. The Senator stated that a car of grain shipped from the Texas Panhandle to market at an expense of $525 brought $475; Texas and Florida truck farmers have shipped produce to the New York market and received nothing in return but a bill for the balance due on freight and commission charges. (N.Y. Times, May 6)

2. The results of investigations of a committee appointed by the Governor of California to investigate freight rates in relation to cost of production of fruits, vegetables and rice, are published in the Journal of Commerce for April 7, in a table which shows the recent increase in freight rates, expressed in terms of burden per acre, and the equivalent involved to produce sufficient money to pay that burden.

Freight Rates on Road Building Materials

"The most discouraging feature of the situation is to be found in the present high freight rates on road building materials. Men who have studied this angle of the situation declare that while the railroads undoubtedly need the revenue, the present rates are so high as to seriously discourage construction, greatly reduce shipments and thus defeat their own purpose. The present freight rates on road building materials and particularly on such materials as gravel, stone, sand and slag are out of all reason. On a haul of any length

(Cont'd on page 4.)

Freight Rates on Road Building Materials (Cont'd)

the freight substantially exceeds the value of the materials. (From an article entitled, "Some of Our Public Highway Problems," by Clyde H. Hockey, in The Ohio Farmer for May 7.)

Labor

1. The Kansas City Reserve bank, reporting on the farm labor situation, states that "the shortage of labor, which was acute during the war period and to a great extent in 1919 and 1920, has been relieved. The April reports of all states in the district reflect a supply of labor in excess of that of one year ago and generally in excess of normal supply." (N. Y. Times, May 8.)

2. Reestablishment of the $16 weekly minimum wage for the 30,000 women fruit and vegetable cannery workers in California has been ordered by the State Industrial Welfare Commission. (Jour. of Commerce, May 7.)

Land Tax

Referring to the Ralston-Nolan bill, an editorial in Farm and Home says: "This tax on farm land cannot be passed on to the consumers as it can in the case of land occupied by manufacturing establishments for to date the farmer has been unable to set the price on the commodities which he sells. Farmers already pay a tax upon their land as well as other taxes. This bill would shift from commercial enterprises on to the farmers a burden of $1,000,000,000. Farmers who are cultivating high priced land could not stand this added burden."

Mexican Forest Protection

Forest protection and conservation along most modern lines are provided in a bill prepared by the Department of Agriculture of the Mexican Government for introduction in Congress. The proposed law provides for protection of forests from fire, similar to that in operation in the United States. (Phil. Ledger, May 9.)

Middle West Bank Situation

The bank situation in the Middle West is showing two unusual factors, according to a Kansas City report to the Washington Herald of today. It says: "One is the heavy loan account already carried by the banks, some of which is many months old and should have been cleaned off the slate with the sale of products in autumn. The other is the potential wealth lying in wheat bins and corn cribs, none of which can be disposed of at a profit and some of which seems likely to remain indefinitely."

Packers Control

An editorial on "Attempts to Control the Packers," in New York Commercial for May 7 says: "If Congress sees fit to lay down certain rules by which the packers are to be governed, well and good. ... When such rules and regulations are made by Congress they should be left to the general enforcement agencies of the Government. To create a commission, however, to practically take the management of the packers' business out of their hands is reactionary. It is forcing the Government into business instead of out of it. It is putting small men in big men's jobs and it is not at all likely that the results will justify the expectations."

Radio Crop Reports for Canada

Radiograms flashing crop news, reporting weather conditions and ordering cars for movements of grain may soon come into use among farmers of Western Canada, according to Philadelphia Ledger of today.

War Finance Corporation Loans

Application for loans totaling $11,035,000 for financing exports have been approved by the War Finance Corporation since its reorganization early in January. Of this sum $2,306,798 has been actually advanced. Requests for $8,500,000 for financing exports of milk products were the heaviest loans applied for, while cotton was next, with applications aggregating $2,505,000. The remaining $30,000 was for tobacco exports. Countries to which the commodities would be shipped include England, France, Italy, Portugal, Japan, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, as well as South America. (Wash. Star, May 7.)

Wool Warehousing

The Ohio wool warehouse is described in The Ohio Farmer for May 7, which states that Ohio is now in shape to do away with all kinds of irregularity and dishonesty in wool marketing. It says: "There is a wool warehouse in the center of the state, and all railroads running to it. There all wool will pass for exactly what it is and large piles of it will be sold at the best figure available. All the defects of the old system are eliminated." There are now about 500,000 pounds on hand, three times that much having been shipped out lately. There are 6,000,000 pounds in sight to come in and all the costs to the growers will be 2 3/4 per cent and the freight to Columbus.

Department of Agriculture

1. "Alarmed at the evidence of an apparent awakening among business men as to the unfairness in permitting all forms of conspiracy and cooperated action among farmers generally, when business men are held to a sharp accountability against even limited forms of cooperation, an effort is now apparently to be made in Congress to safeguard favoritism to the farmers by giving the Secretary of Agriculture extraordinary powers to grant immunity from prosecution when he desires. This is proposed under H. R. 2373. ... This bill is arousing a great deal of indignation in trade circles, especially in the food trades and strong protests are to be made in Congress against the enactment of this measure adding to the farmers' favor." (From an article entitled "Grocers Oppose Petting the Farmer," in Jour. of Commerce, May 7.)

2. "I never realized how many plans for farming could be had from the Government until I visited the Department of Agriculture myself, and talked with some of the men in the Farm Management Department," is the first sentence of an article entitled "Hints on Farm Management: What I learned from the Department of Agriculture in Washington," by Semour Smith, in The Field for May. In his review he lays especial stress on "A Measure of a Day's Work."

Conventions and Exhibitions

A traveling school for fig growers as a part of the campaign of the California Peach and Fig Growers to produce in California the best fig grown anywhere in the world will be held during the week of May 16-21 inclusive. (California Cultivator, Apr. 23.
